

## Refugees tell of mass killings in Uganda

Members of the Langi and Acholi tribes in Uganda, refugees from President Amin's regime in Tanzania yesterday. They said in the armed forces, police service to be liquidated. In Kampala, Amin expressed his determination to the Commonwealth conference in June.

## Two tribes 'being liquidated'

Kampala, Feb. 23.—A two tribes in Uganda, refugees from President Amin's regime in Tanzania yesterday. They said in the armed forces, police service to be liquidated. In Kampala, Amin expressed his determination to the Commonwealth conference in June.

President Amin's orders had been to "liquidate" all members of the Langi and Acholi tribes in Uganda, refugees from President Amin's regime in Tanzania yesterday. They said in the armed forces, police service to be liquidated. In Kampala, Amin expressed his determination to the Commonwealth conference in June.

## BP holding main share in big new oilfield

By Roger Violevoe

Detailed evaluation of an oil field by British Petroleum, Conoco/Statol in the Norwegian sector of the North Sea last summer has led to speculation within the company that BP may have a majority share in a new oilfield at least as big as its Forties discovery.

Much excitement has been generated within the discovery group by the find, which is in relatively shallow water, 225ft, with apparently good reservoir characteristics. Those factors could make development of the field easier and less costly than some other new finds in the United Kingdom and Norwegian area that are in deep water.

The new oilfield is in block 7/12 about twenty miles from the median line that divides the North Sea and is due east of Aberdeen. BP, which has taken over as operator for the group, is planning a series of appraisal wells this summer to confirm preliminary geological indications.

Comparisons with BP's Forties field raise the possibility of the new discovery producing more than 400,000 barrels of oil a day. Although it is only 35 miles north-west of the Ekofisk group of oilfields it is unlikely that the pipeline from the area to Teesside could accommodate a flow of that size.

BP "farmed" into the block last year, taking a share previously held by Gulf. The deal gave BP a 55 per cent holding against Conoco's 25 per cent, Statoil's 12.5 per cent and the Norwegian Petroleum consortium's 5 per cent.

Statol, the Norwegian state oil company, announced yesterday that the second well drilled in the field, a well drilled in the Statfjord field in far northern waters has been tested at a flow rate of 12,558 barrels a day through a 2 inch choke.

Those figures also indicate another large oil deposit, but Statol said in a statement that further evaluation would be required before it could be established whether the find was commercially exploitable.

Statol has a half stake in the field and the other shareholders are Mobil, Conoco, Esso, Shell, Saga, Amoco, Amerasia, Hess and Texas Eastern. Statol is also a half shareholder in another find announced yesterday, this time in block 1/9 south of the Ekofisk field. Testing produced oil and gas, but the company did not disclose flow rates.

The Ross field, which made the discovery is moving oil from block 13/9 before returning to block 1/9 for new appraisal drilling that Statol said will be required to establish the commercial possibilities of the field.



Mr. Michael Harris, Under Sheriff of the County of London, with LSE students yesterday.

## Barricade at LSE stops sheriff

By Robert Parker

There was a vain attempt yesterday to serve a High Court possession order on about five hundred students who have been occupying the administration block at the London School of Economics for the past two weeks in protest about tuition fee increases.

An order granted to the LSE on Tuesday instructed the students to leave by midday yesterday. But when Mr. Michael Harris, Under Sheriff of the County of London, arrived at 1.10 pm with two senior police officers to serve the order he found the occupied area barricaded. He was not obstructed.

After good-humoured exchanges with students outside Mr. Harris left. He said he hoped he could return peacefully, as he had done 25 years previously to take a course in economics.

Mr. Harris went to the first-floor entrance of the occupied area, but the doors were locked. Mr. John Cruse, senior treasurer of the students' union and one of four people on the High Court order was served, told Mr. Harris he had no key.

Mr. Harris said: "I have got a court order to enforce. It is going to be enforced. I should like to take possession peacefully, but if I cannot, the only alternative is to take possession by force. I do not want to do that."

He spoke on the telephone with Miss Wanda Goldsway, general secretary of the union, who was inside the occupied area. She refused on behalf of the students to admit him.

During the afternoon students from King's College near by urged the LSE students to sit down in the main entrance and obstruct the police. Their appeal has only limited success, and after a while they left.

There was generally good humour and moderation throughout yesterday. The two senior policemen were amused by a slogan outside the occupied area saying: "Welcome to our friends in blue. Fight for the right to strike."

One reporter who was allowed in said no damage had been caused. It was remarkably clean everywhere.

It was believed that the police would be able to get in by "digging up" the ground in front of the building, but the order giving the students the right to strike was not enforced.

Call for strike: Britain's 800,000 students are being urged to take action for 24 hours next Wednesday in protest at the Government's proposed increase in tuition fees (see Press Association reports).

Mr. Charles Clarke, president of the National Union of Students, announced last night that the NUS had called a national day of action. It will include occupations of universities, technicals and college buildings, lobbying of councillors, rallies, and student-staff open meetings.

Students at the Royal College of Art, Kensington Gore, occupied the administrative building yesterday in pursuit of various demands, including no increase in fees.

## Labour NEC demand for new strategy rejected

By Our Political Reporter

Labour's national executive, which two weeks ago wanted a reconciliation with the Government, yesterday reverted to its basic instinct by demanding of Mr. Callaghan that a joint working party with ministers should be allowed to embrace an alternative economic strategy.

The Prime Minister made clear, however, that such a proposition would not be entertained and that there was going to be no change in government policy in mid-term. He added that it might be possible to hold discussions on economic policy later, but certainly not now.

Left-wing members on the national executive were clearly suffering withdrawal symptoms from their joint meeting with Cabinet ministers last week, particularly as they thought Mr. Callaghan had made some provocative remarks.

The attack was led by Mr. M. J. M. who had adopted a conciliatory role at the joint meeting, but yesterday he stated that the Prime Minister had produced the idea of joint working parties like "rabbits out of a hat."

Mr. Callaghan had suggested a number of joint working parties, including industrial policy, unemployment, prices and education. Mr. Mikardo, and some of his colleagues, argued yesterday, however, that an alternative economic strategy should be part of any discussions.

Mr. Mikardo complained that Mr. Callaghan had been a bit abrasive in his remarks at the joint meeting. The executive did not seek a confrontation but its honest endeavour was to change policies in order "that we can go forward together to win the next general election."

Pressure on the Prime Minister to allow discussion on an alternative economic strategy also came from Mr. Atkinson, party treasurer, Mr. Heffer and Mr. Castle, who stated that the joint meeting had been a disappointing and disturbing experience. They asked to intervene in the debate but Mr. Callaghan said he had suggested joint meetings on industrial policy, but any discussion on an alternative economic strategy would lead to disagreement. "Let us make a start on things where we agree," he said.

While Mr. Benn, Secretary of State for Energy, stated that an alternative strategy might emerge from discussions on industrial policy, the Prime Minister made clear that the national executive could examine an alternative strategy if it wished, but it would not be part of any joint talks.

## Defeat on devolution guillotine puts Cabinet in straitjacket

By George Clark

Few options will be open to the Cabinet this morning when it meets to decide whether to continue with the devolution Bill, which seeks to set up elected assemblies in Scotland and Wales. The humiliating defeat on Tuesday night of the attempt to impose a timetable to ensure the Bill's passage through the Commons this session makes that much plain.

Even allowing for the united opposition of the Tories, it was essentially a defeat of the Government by its backbenchers. More than 40 are to be disenchanted with the Bill that they refused all the blandishments and pressures of the whips, and Mr. Callaghan, to vote for the guillotine motion. Ministers were putting on a brave face yesterday and saying that the committee stage will proceed. Indeed, the Opposition has been warned that next week allows Tuesday and Wednesday to the continuation of the committee stage. But Labour realises that the Bill is virtually dead.

Without a guillotine it is so full of volatile material, open to challenge and amendment, that opportunities for delay and obstruction are manifold. There are three courses for ministers to consider. First, they might continue with the Bill, hoping that the Commons stages can be completed in time for the Lords to take the Bill this session, with the possibility of prolonging the session to December if necessary to enable them to do so. That idea was described as "pie in the sky" by a Labour opponent last night. After 11 days and nearly a year, the Commons has just completed consideration of three clauses in a 115-clause Bill, and the second reading of the new clause providing for referendums in Scotland and Wales, apart from procedural motions on the closure of debates, and the Government has had majorities of between 19 and 267.

But the real defeat has been inflicted by those opponents of the Bill, the Conservatives and Liberal, who have tabled vast numbers of amendments and sustained debate on them without ever being justifiably accused of filibustering. Mr. Foot, Leader of the House, who in the past has made good use of the backbencher's power, has recognised that fact with generosity.

His past successes are, indeed, an inspiration to the dissidents today. What could be done with the Parliament No. 2 Bill to reform the House of Lords in 1967-68, could be repeated with the devolution Bill. So it has turned out.

Secondly, the Government could decide to put the Bill into cold storage for the time being and bring in a quick Bill to authorize referendums in Scotland and Wales as soon as possible.

That course was being urged by some Labour opponents yesterday, but it would mean the end of the Bill this session, and there would be much argument about the form of the questions.

The third possibility is that the Government will accept the Shadow Cabinet proposition, supported by the Liberals, of an all-party convention on the constitution. It would have the task of agreeing on the powers and functions of the proposed assemblies, and on the future representation at Westminster of Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. A redrafted Bill would then be based on common ground.

What the convention should consider would be open to discussion within the parties. Obviously, the Liberals would like the terms of reference to be extended to cover the introduction of proportional representation for elections to the Scottish and Welsh assemblies as well as to the European Parliament and, eventually, Westminster.

Reform of the House of Lords, inextricably interwoven in the general reform plans, would be another candidate for inclusion.

But any deviation from the commitment given in the Queen's Speech to legislation on devolution this session will be seized upon by the nationalists as proof. The slaughter of Labour's Conservative and Liberal candidates at the next general election would be their aim, and the abandonment of the Bill would be for them a propaganda coup.

Mr. Callaghan's view is that the Government has done its best to carry out its promises, and that the proposals have been thwarted by the combined efforts of a united Conservative Party (which earlier seemed likely to split on the issue), an almost united Liberal Party, and the Conservative and Liberal dissidents.

He and other Cabinet ministers are pointing out to their political audiences in Scotland and Wales that Labour now seem to be the only party committed to devolution of power to new assemblies, preserving the unity of the United Kingdom. Today they will consider whether there may be some other way of devolving powers to Scotland and Wales.

The Prime Minister is anxious to let it be known that the Government does not

Continued on page 2, col 1

## Is show revulsion at thought of Amin visit

Correspondent

he was present. Lord Goronwy-Roberts added that he hoped *Hansard* would be perused carefully in Kampala.

From the Conservative benches Lord Eknor said that the time had come for considering Uganda's suspension from the Commonwealth. He suggested that the Commonwealth would be the ideal forum for exposing recent events in Uganda and for showing that it was not only Christians, but peoples of all colours and religions, who looked on these with revulsion.

The Bishop of St. Edmundsbury and Ipswich, Dr. Leslie Brown, who returned at the weekend from Nairobi called for speedy action because of fear that the killings of the past could be far exceeded by those of the present and future.

Parliamentary report, page 7

## Bread strike is called off

A threatened national bread strike over equal pay for six thousand women workers was called off last night.

After four hours of talks at the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service (the Bakers' Union and the Federation of Bakers said they had reached agreement. It is understood the employers agreed to the equal pay demand without their previous requirement that men should take a pay cut.

## Dr Kreisky reminds Israel of Palestinian rights

From Moshe Brilliant

Tel Aviv, Feb. 23.—Dr. Kreisky, the Austrian Chancellor, appeared today before 3,000 delegates to the Israel Labour Party's convention and told them that the Palestinian people had as much right as Israelis to demand recognition of their national entity.

Referring to Israel's insistence that Jordan should represent the Palestinians, Dr. Kreisky said: "I want to tell you, dear friends, that you will not be able to choose who shall represent those people."

Dr. Kreisky was among an unprecedented array of political dignitaries from 17 countries attending the convention which is to elect the party's candidate for Prime Minister and leader in the parliamentary elections on May 17. Voting by secret ballot began last night.

Dr. Kreisky, who is of Jewish descent, has been unpopular here for outspoken comments including his support for recognition of the Palestinians. He was applauded as he stated that although he was not a Zionist, he felt a common fate with the "community to which my ancestors belonged."

But he said sharply that it was not for Israel to say whether the area where the Palestinians want their homeland was viable. "When you established your state?" he asked, "could it have been foreseen you would develop in such a fashion?"

The Israel Labour Party's election platform opposes the establishment of a Palestinian state independent of Jordan.

In a brief speech before the polling, Mr. Rabin, the Prime Minister, said that during the two years and nine months of his administration the country had gained strength and enjoyed quiet borders. He closed on a personal note, asking: "Wouldn't a vote against me mean no confidence in the man and what we have done? How will the party explain why? The Prime Minister was changed?"

Mr. Peres, the rival candidate, spoke at greater length, emphasising domestic problems including the social gap, inflation, labour unrest, economic scandals, the decline in immigration and the rise in emigration.

He said polls showed that the party was declining and would not obtain the 750,000 votes needed to hold its own.

Tel Aviv: In tonight's voting, Mr. Rabin could count on the support of the party machinery, of much of the large Tel Aviv area, delegates from development towns, where many Jewish immigrants from Arab countries have settled.—Reuter.

## 'Private Eye' sellers lose appeal

By Marcel Berlins

Legal Correspondent

Libel writs issued by Sir James Goldsmith against 17 distributors of *Private Eye* were not abuse of the process of the court and he was entitled to proceed with them, the Court of Appeal decided by two to one yesterday.

Lord Justice Scarman and Lord Justice Bridge rejected argument by the distributors that Sir James's real motive for taking action was to stifle *Private Eye's* outlets.

Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls, in a dissenting judgment, found that Sir James's predominant purpose was to stop the magazine from being distributed. That was a purpose outside the legitimate scope of the legal process, and the court should not allow the actions to continue, he said.

His opinion, however, was criticised by the other two judges. The court dismissed the appeal of Sperring Ltd. of Southampton, in a sample case for all 17 distributors, from a decision by Mr. Justice Stocker, who had overturned a decision by a High Court master staying Sir James's action.

Costs were awarded against Sperring, but will in fact be paid by *Private Eye*. The total costs are estimated at between £20,000 and £30,000. Leave to appeal to the House of Lords was refused.

Law Report, page 6

## I plan to trounce white land

removal of various forms of discrimination were Mr. Smith, the Rhodesian Minister. The most dramatic purchase by people of all races of several reforms by a commission of inquiry rejected at the time by the

## Mr Agee

failed to gain the pro-Scottish courts against a deportation order. The Home Secretary said any person report any person

## I posts

Labour Party working party plans to put council members are trade union members authority committees

## Mr Hattersley in merger controversy

Mr Hattersley, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, was at the centre of a controversy after refusing to stop a contested merger between Harbert Morris and Babcock and Wilcox. A Monopolies Commission panel held, by a majority of three to two, that the takeover might operate against the public interest.

## EEC poll talks

Early talks on European direct elections are being sought by the Labour Party national executive with Mr. Rees, Home Secretary, and Dr. Owen, Foreign Secretary.

## Mr Amalik detained

Paris police briefly detained Mr. Andrei Amalik, the Soviet dissident, who was protesting outside the Elysée Palace against President Giscard d'Estaing's refusal to meet him.

## Dr Burns attacks Carter Budget

Mr Carter's Administration was severely criticized yesterday by Dr. Arthur Burns, chairman of the United States Federal Reserve System, for producing policies that caused new fears about inflation. The Budget, which stepped up public spending, included a plan for cash rebates to every American, which would weaken business confidence.

## Ulster shooting: Mr Peter Hill, aged 45, a prominent Londonderry businessman, was shot dead near his home in Linagrad Road, Londonderry, last night.

## Fraud allegations: A new report on allegations of social security fraud, submitted by Mr. John Sprot, MP, are expected to be published next month.

## Holidays: Fewer people took holidays away from home last year but they spent more.

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## Britain reminds Russia of Helsinki spirit

Britain has asked the Soviet Union to act in the spirit of Helsinki in considering some 40 cases of Soviet citizens who want to come to this country.

Lord Goronwy-Roberts, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, raised the question with Mr. Nikolai Lunov, the Soviet Ambassador, yesterday in the course of a general discussion on human rights.

He pointed out that of the people seeking to come to Britain from the Soviet Union some wanted to join relatives permanently, and others wanted to visit relatives.

The obstacle on the Russian side seems to be the strong disapproval of Soviet citizens who have left their homeland to settle in a foreign country.

Lord Goronwy-Roberts emphasized the importance attached by Britain to the Helsinki agreements.

Vienna, Feb. 23.—Bulgarian emigrant representatives today claimed that Bulgaria had significantly stepped up repression against "non-conformist circles" since the Helsinki conference.—Agence France-Presse.

Our Best Review of easy matter to settle

Is the rent review notice valid?

What is the current market rental value?

Will the improvements we have made to the property be taken into account?

For advice on these and the many other problems of rent review negotiations,

**Edward Eraman**







NEWS

**Abortionists  
align  
against  
Bill  
on  
ortion**

Correspondent  
Life Standing  
the Methodist  
advised about 30  
to reject Mr  
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Channel Islands  
fear increase in  
nuclear pollution  
The Home Office is carefully  
considering possible dangers to  
the Channel Islands because  
of increased French nuclear  
activity on the Cotentin penin-  
sula, near by, Guernsey's  
parliament was assured yester-  
day.  
It was disclosed that last  
October the Home Office was  
old of public concern and  
uncase in Guernsey, and was  
asked to assess the risk.  
Jersey made a similar request  
in December and yesterday Mr  
Michael Beaumont, the  
Seigneur of Sark, asked for that  
island to be associated with  
the others.  
Since the early 1960s a  
French plutonium reprocessing  
plant has been in operation at  
La Hague within sight of  
Alderney, and on occasions,  
most of the other islands.  
Recently they have been  
reports that the plant's capacity  
is to be increased to cope with  
additional nuclear waste,  
including some from Japan.  
There are also plans for a  
French nuclear-powered elec-  
tricity plant to be built at  
Flamanville near by.  
Islanders' fears about possible  
contamination were increased  
by a prolonged strike by pro-  
fession workers and safety  
measures at La Hague last  
year, and by recent reports  
and visits from Crican, the anti-  
nuclear movement in lower  
Normandy. La Hague as "Wind-  
sate run wild".

Bone-marrow boy  
Anthony Nolan, aged five,  
who has a bone-marrow disease,  
was said to be making satis-  
factory progress in Canterbury  
Hospital yesterday, after drop-  
ping a bowl on his foot at his  
home near Ashford.

**Most complaints submitted by MP displayed a poor grasp of the social security system**

**Welfare report likely to disclose small incidence of fraud**

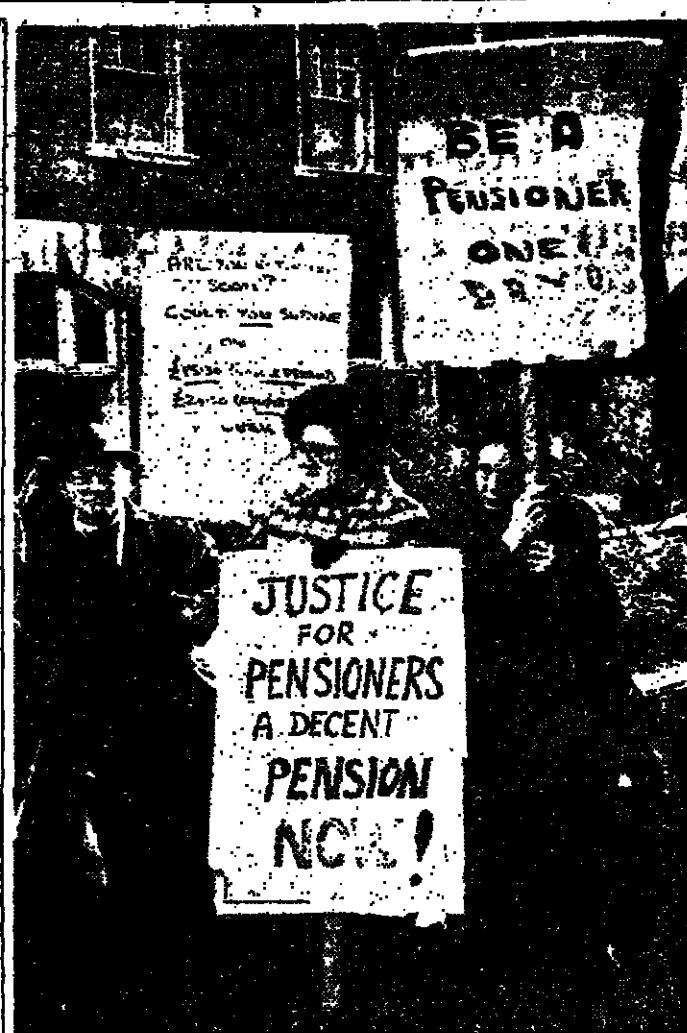
By Pat Healy  
Social Services Correspondent  
A second report on allega-  
tions of social security fraud  
submitted for investigation by  
Mr Iain Sproat, Conservative  
MP for Aberdeen, South, is  
likely to disclose as low  
an incidence of proved fraud  
as the first one, which  
appeared last week.  
The new report covering  
about two hundred allegations,  
will probably be published  
next month. The first one  
covered 196, and disclosed  
eight instances of fraud.  
The eight, which involve  
petty fraud rather than orga-  
nized crime, are being dealt with.  
The expectation of a similarly  
low yield from the second  
investigation is based on the  
fact that the allegations were  
made in the same kinds of  
letter as the first batch.  
Mr Orme, Minister for Social  
Security, has allowed me to see  
a selection of those letters,

covering about 40 of the alle-  
gations investigated. Most were  
written by people with a low  
standard of literacy and little  
knowledge of the relationship  
between benefits and contribu-  
tions paid. Some were clearly  
malicious.  
One woman complained that  
a social security cheque had  
enabled a family to buy a colour  
television set, while a relative  
of hers had been unable to get  
a grant to buy pyjamas. Inter-  
viewed by officials, she was  
unable to name the family con-  
cerned. The investigators con-  
cluded that she was simply  
passing on gossip.  
Her relative had not asked  
for a grant since he had last re-  
ceived one to pay for pyjamas  
four years ago.  
A man was accused of joining  
the Army during the last war  
specifically to earn himself a  
pension, and not to have worked  
since his discharge. He was said  
to live rent-free in a council

house and to be always well  
dressed.  
In fact the man was 69, and  
was buying his house at a  
weekly cost including rates of  
under £4 a week. His best  
clothes were 15 years old. He  
had been invalided out of the  
Air Force and unable to work  
since because of a combination  
of ailments, including arthritis,  
deafness and high blood-  
pressure. He lived on invalidity  
benefit and supplementary  
benefits.  
Not all allegations were quite  
so ill founded. Three members  
of one family were named in a  
letter containing allegations  
against a total of eight people,  
all known to their local social  
security office and against some  
of whom suspicions had arisen  
before.  
All three had started new  
jobs and stopped drawing ben-  
efits before the investigations  
were completed. If any of them  
claims benefit again their cases

will be referred to a senior  
official. It was noted by the  
investigators that it was rare  
for all three to be working at  
the same time.  
But a woman named in the  
letter, who was said to be draw-  
ing benefit while receiving sub-  
stantial sums from two lodgers,  
was not claiming benefit. She  
was the cohabitee of one of the  
men, who was unemployed but  
not available for work because  
he was caring for their children  
while she was in hospital re-  
covering from an operation.  
Mr Orme said that about half  
his post of 500 letters a week  
on social security matters made  
allegations of fraud. The rest  
were from people who found it  
difficult to get benefits to which  
they believed they were en-  
titled. Fewer than two-fifths of  
unemployed people received un-  
employment benefit, Mr Orme  
said.  
He added: "The remainder  
of the cases in the Sproat

dossier will be investigated, but  
the special exercise has cost us  
a lot of money, about £10,000  
to £15,000. We cannot continue  
this exercise indefinitely."  
Mr Sproat said he was "absol-  
utely horrified" that letters  
sent to him in confidence had  
been passed on to the press. It  
was constitutionally improper.  
He said he would continue  
his campaign. He thought the  
investigations were a whitewash.  
He had had floods of letters  
expressing the same view. The  
allegations offered in the first  
report were "slippery" and  
typical of the way the depart-  
ment tried to avoid prosecuting  
people.  
Mr Sproat cited a case where  
he had alleged that a man  
receiving unemployment benefit  
had been working in a public  
house. The allegation had been  
substantiated, but the depart-  
ment had not prosecuted be-  
cause the man was paid in  
cigarettes.



Outside their London headquarters yesterday TUC leaders had to run the gauntlet of angry old-age pensioners campaigning for higher pensions.

**Conservative call over police pay**

By Our Political Staff  
Conservative backbenchers at  
the Commons last night were  
heavily signing an early-day  
motion drafted by officials of  
the Opposition's home affairs  
committee, calling on the Gov-  
ernment to find a way to in-  
crease police pay and end the  
grievances of the British police  
forces. The motion reads: "That  
this House, believing that an  
efficient and contented police  
force is indispensable to the main-  
tenance of the Queen's peace, calls  
on the Prime Minister to procure  
a speedy solution to the police pay  
dispute on the principles applied  
in the case of the seamen's pay  
settlement."

Among the principal signa-  
tories are Mr Edward Gardner,  
QC, Mr Maudling, Mr Michael  
Alison, Mr Patrick Mayhew, Mr  
Roger Sims, and Mr Alan Clark.  
They have deliberately men-  
tioned the Prime Minister, who  
in years of Labour opposition  
was parliamentary consultant to  
the Police Federations of  
England and Wales and Scot-  
land. (The consultancy post is

now held by Mr Eldon Griffiths,  
a Conservative backbencher and  
son of a police inspector.)  
Mr Gardner said last night:  
"The police deserve better  
treatment than they are getting.  
The fact that they have no right  
to strike must not be exploited;  
the Government must do for the  
police what they did for the  
National Union of Seamen, be-  
cause the case for the payment  
of fringe benefits to the police  
is just as strong, if not  
stronger."  
Our Crime Correspondent  
writes: Representatives of the  
120,000 members of the Police  
Federation will tell Home  
Office officials tomorrow that  
unless progress is made on  
their £6-a-week claim within  
the next two weeks they can-  
not be held responsible for  
action that some members  
might take.  
A federation official said  
last night after a meeting of  
the executive: "The mood in  
some areas is such that groups  
of police officers may decide  
to go on strike or just report

sick and refuse to go on duty.  
We hope that the Government  
will concede we have a just  
claim and avoid a tragedy."  
The federation's executive,  
which in trade union terms is  
regarded as moderate, is being  
bombarded with demands from  
forces all over the country to  
press for a change in its con-  
stitution that would give the  
police the rights to strike and  
to affiliate with the TUC.  
Mr Rees, Home Secretary,  
has told the federation several  
times that to grant the £5  
demand would be in breach of  
the pay code. The police, how-  
ever, cite the case of the sea-  
men, who were granted a pay  
increase last year with fringe  
benefits after they had  
threatened to call a national  
strike.  
There are now signs, how-  
ever, that the Government may  
avert a head-on clash with the  
police with a "watered down  
package", as one official  
described it, to placate most of  
the country's policemen.

**Obscene telex  
message  
led to £30 fine**

The £5,000-a-year managing  
director of a steel company  
decided to send a funny  
message to a former partner  
with whom he had had business  
disagreements, magistrates at  
Walsall, West Midlands, were  
told yesterday. After pre-  
Christmas drinks with another  
steel company director he sent  
a message over their telex  
machine.  
Among other things, mostly  
obscene, his message read: "I  
hope you die over Christmas  
and nobody collects for you."  
Stuart Royston James Mc-  
Gleish, aged 30, of Wrekin  
Avenue, Newport, Salop, who  
pleaded guilty to sending a  
grossly offensive, obscene,  
indecent and menacing message  
by the public telex service, was  
fined £30.  
Mr Gerald Challoner, for the  
defence, said: "This was done  
with the full knowledge that  
there would be no lady opera-  
tors on duty at either end."

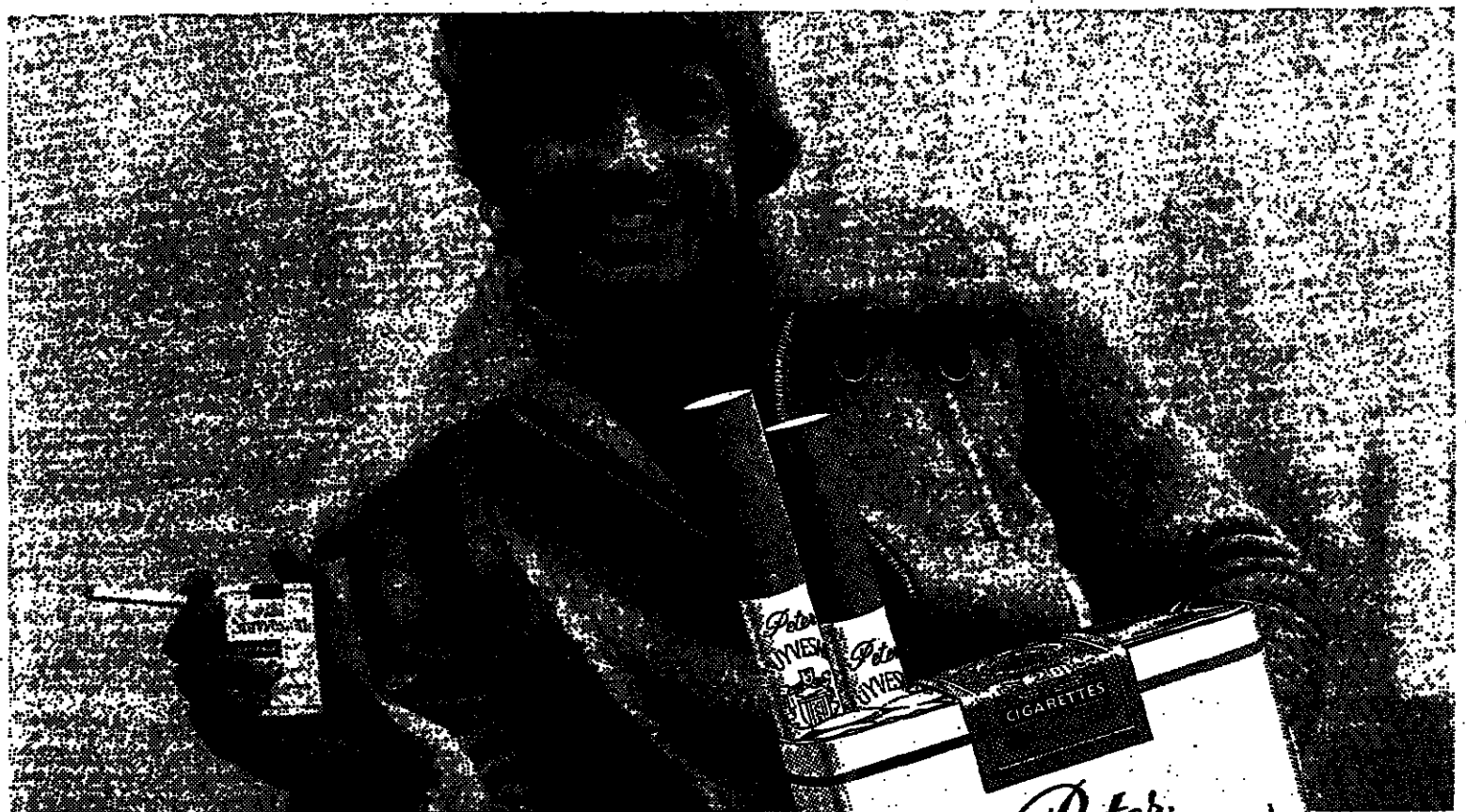
**Animals rescued  
in flooded zoo**

Firemen pumped a foot of  
floodwater from cages in a zoo  
at Knaresborough, North York-  
shire, yesterday, to save a num-  
ber of animals, including a lion,  
two pumas and a tiger.  
Their cages had been flooded  
by 12 hours' continuous rain  
and it was feared that they  
would catch pneumonia.

**Firms in Sunday  
post appeal**

The Mail Users' Association,  
which represents the Post  
Office's commercial customers,  
has asked it to resume a limited  
postal collection on Sundays,  
which was halted last May for  
a year experimentally at an  
estimated saving of about £8m.  
The Post Office is unlikely to  
make any decision until the  
experiment is complete.

**So much more  
to enjoy at 47p\***



**Peter  
Stuyvesant  
KING  
SIZE**

Rich choice tobaccos. King Size flavour.  
King Size satisfaction.

**PS...The international passport to smoking pleasure**

\*Recommended price for 20, correct at time of going to press.

**LOW TO MIDDLE TAR GROUP** As defined in H.M. Government Tables.  
**EVERY PACKET CARRIES A GOVERNMENT HEALTH WARNING**



## HOME NEWS

## TUC-Labour plan to put union men on council committees

By Christopher Thomas

Plans to give trade union representatives an opportunity to influence the decisions of local authorities were published yesterday in a joint working party statement by the TUC and the Labour Party.

It draws attention to what it calls the special problems of introducing industrial democracy into local government because of the election process and the representative nature of councils. Nevertheless it recommends worker-involvement.

The main proposal is that employee representatives should constitute up to a fifth of each council committee, with a minimum of two representatives. They would not be allowed to vote, but would bring their special knowledge as local authority employees to bear on committee decisions, the statement says.

It recommends that workers should be allowed to stand for election to the council that employs them and says that legislation along these lines is "very much overdue". The TUC and the Labour Party would be seeking a joint meeting with the Secretary of State, for the Environment, for an unequivocal commitment from the Government.

The working party was set up by the TUC local government committee and the National Executive Committee of the Labour Party. The chairman was Mr Geoffrey Drain, general secretary of the National and Local Government Officers' Association (NALGO).

The joint statement says the council of teachers, with voting rights, on to education committees should be maintained as now. Workers should have voting rights on lower-level groups such as the managing and governing bodies of schools and colleges. They would be drawn from and elected by members of recognized

unions. The TUC and the Labour Party have already put that idea to the Taylor Committee, which is investigating the government and management of schools.

In addition to participation in committee work, the report says, it is important that industrial democracy should operate within council departments. It suggests a formal system of committees, involving staff at all levels in the management of their departments. Meetings would be attended by the chairman of the relevant council committee and the chief officer.

The working party recommends that consideration should be given to how, below departmental level, employees can best play their part in jointly determining how the services in which they are directly involved operate.

It emphasizes that the working party's intention was to devise procedures that would not disturb the wider democratic nature of local government, and says its proposals would make it possible for employees to be engaged in the discussion of matters of importance to staff before a committee is taken at a committee level. As examples it cites proposed changes in work practice; changes in staff levels; a transfer of manpower resources; and general policy implementation.

It continues: "The school secretary, caretaker, or welfare assistant, as well as the teacher, have a positive and valuable contribution to make to the working of the school or the education department. Similarly, a waste collector could provide a wealth of information to a housing department."

It might be argued that there was no guarantee that the employees' views would influence decisions. But those views were only one of the elements that should enter into the formulation of policy.

Bulcock criticized, page 18

## Pay restraint still finding little favour

By Paul Routledge

In a day of mounting pressure on the social contract the TUC General Council yesterday deleted some important Treasury thinking from its own annual *Economic Review* in preparation for tomorrow's talks on the Budget with the Chancellor.

At the suggestion of Mr Clive Jenkins and other left-wingers, the review, which forms the basis of union attitudes towards the economy over the next year, now declines to accept government figures for the fall in living standards due to wage restraint, and the likely level of inflation in 1977.

And while the general council was arguing the merits of keeping its options entirely open on a third phase of pay restraint, Mr Joe Wade, the craft printworkers' leader, was pronouncing the social contract "dead and buried".

In his union's journal, *Print*, Mr Wade, general secretary of the National Graphical Association, says: "It wasn't the unions that killed it. It was the Government." Unions had entered into the contract with assurances that pay restraint would help to ease inflation, restore confidence in the pound, create a stable base for expansion of the economy and keeping prices down.

In spite of support from the whole trade union movement on an unprecedented scale, he says "none of these objectives have been achieved."

Opposition to continuing pay restraint also came from a less predictable quarter yesterday: the traditionally non-militant Confederation of Health Service Employees, which has just recruited its 200,000th member. The 28 members of the union's executive voted two to one against endorsing a resolution recognizing the need for a third phase of the contract.

Those manifestations of opposition to a further round of tight pay curbs fuel the growing disenchantment with the social contract. The amendments to the *Economic Review* state, in the context of its importance, but the support of such figures as Mr Scanlon, of the engineering workers, for the left's move to reject Treasury assessments on the economy is of significance.

## Mercury danger in dentistry

A team from Glasgow University is to study health risks faced by dental staff when they are exposed to potentially fatal mercury vapours. Mercury is an essential component in the preparation of dental fillings.

The study team, led by Professor John Lennihan, will ask dental staff to supply samples of their hair and nails for testing.

## Tories may adopt former Liberal

The executive council of Cardigan Conservative Association is recommending members to adopt as their candidate Mr Emyln Thomas, aged 53, a former secretary of the Welsh Liberal Party.

At the last general election Cardigan was held by Mr Geraint Howells for the Liberals with a majority of 2,410 in a four-cornered contest.

## Nalگو ban will spare local voting

By Our Labour Reporter

The Local elections in May will not be affected by a national overtime ban from April 1 by the National and Local Government Officers' Association (NALGO), it emerged yesterday.

The union's emergency committee is recommending that work for returning officers during the elections should not be regarded as overtime. The advice was drawn up after prolonged consideration of the implications of the ban on electoral registration and polling duties.

However, the committee is recommending that preparatory electoral registration work over the standard working period should be regarded as overtime.

Union branches are to be given discretion not to operate an overtime ban, which is over cuts in jobs. If there is a danger to life and limb or property, staff such as committee clerks can work in the evening as part of their contract of service so long as they take time off in lieu; the union says.

The Scottish TUC has decided to sponsor a national demonstration in Glasgow to coincide with a one-day strike by Nalگو on March 9, and is calling on all unions to take part. Several unions have already decided to back the strike.

## Liberals ready to support list system for direct European elections

By Our Political Editor

When Mr Callaghan and the Cabinet met at 10 Downing Street on Friday to resolve the differences of holding direct elections for the European Parliament in May or June, 1978, the Liberal Party will have to decide whether to abandon United Kingdom electoral practice and adopt the system that operates widely in the EEC.

Mr David Steel, the Liberal leader, told me that he and his 12 colleagues in the Commons have already decided that they would accept the list system and that it was practicable for all other British parties.

He accepted that at first sight the system might be condemned as undemocratic and undemocratic, but added that in 1982, at the end of the four-year term, the United Kingdom would have to adopt a uniform method of elections to the European Parliament that might include the list system and proportional representation.

"The way we should get over the democratic power of party central headquarters to nominate from a list," Mr Steel said, "would be to have our own internal primary elections, on the model of the leadership election last year. That would remove much of the objection to a national list controlled by party."

"We should further consider whether the Liberal list should be put on a regional basis. We should try to operate an

internal party system that would satisfy the party in spite of some MPs who are not inherent in the list system."

Unless the list system is adopted, or at any rate canvassed by the Government in a White Paper, there must be increasing uncertainty whether the Liberal Party will be able to fulfil its undertaking at the last summit of the Nine to make the 1978 deadline. France, Denmark and the United Kingdom were the EEC countries in which some direct elections were expected, but the French and the Danes have already shown that where there is a Europeanist will there is a way.

Mr Callaghan would not easily bear the odium of being the Nine's one head of government who had failed to deliver all undertaking on the due date. It is important, because the agreement is that all the nine countries should have simultaneous direct elections next year, or none.

If the United Kingdom becomes the obstacle to direct elections it means that there will be a continuance of nominated delegations in the European Parliament; and in a day of minority government that is a heavy burden at Westminster.

Delegates are repeatedly being flown back from Strasbourg, Luxembourg and Brussels to vote in night divisions, and the physical strain on MPs who serve a dual man-

## The education debate 2: More needs to be heard of the views of the consumers

## Nomadic pupils prove case for centralized curriculum

From Tim Devlin

Education Correspondent

Harrogate

Mention Lord of the Flies to Miranda Cord, aged 16, and she feels a little sick. William Golding's novel has featured prominently on her English syllabus for three years as she has moved from school to school.

First she went through it for a year as a comprehension exercise at a private school in Kirby Lonsdale. She read it again as a set book at a comprehensive school in Keighley. This year, it is a gateway to the classics at Granby High School, Harrogate.

She is reflecting ruefully, too, this week on the effect her father's nomadic life as an engineer has had on her learning of mathematics in the six schools she has attended. Her mock examination result on Tuesday showed a poor score of 24.4 per cent.

Correct as the result may be to the decimal point, it does not explain that Miranda began with modern mathematics and cuisenaire rods at a primary school near Barrow-in-Furness. After an interlude at Windermere, where she was taught traditional addition and sub-

traction she moved when she was 13 to Kirby Lonsdale, and back to modern mathematics. At the age of 14 she reverted to traditional teaching at Keighley, and for the last year she has been studying for her Certificate of Secondary Education, in the modern way. Miranda typifies much of what the great debate on education, which today moves to its second regional conference in Bradford, is all about.

Mrs Williams, Secretary of State for Education and Science, who has referred to the increasing mobility of families, is now asking how far we can afford to continue with a decentralized educational system in which every head teacher can decide what should be taught, except for the statutory amount of religious education.

This week I have visited three schools: Granby, a large comprehensive with more than two thousand pupils, in Harrogate; Upper Nidderdale, a small, former secondary modern school of 320 pupils, in the village of Pateley Bridge, a dozen miles away; and Risedale, a thousand-pupil school where half the children are from highly mobile, army families at Caterick Camp, in which the school is situated.

More than 30 children of widely differing interests and abilities have shown a fairly united front for the following:

1. A single examination at 16-plus set by a national examination board, with marks based more on the assessment of work done over a two-year course than only on the results of a 2½-hour examination.
2. Freedom for children to choose their courses, except for mathematics and English, which should be compulsory until the age of 16.
3. The abolition of statutory compulsory religious education for children over the age of 14.

Helen Moncrieff, who has attended nine schools in 10 years, has just moved to Risedale from an army school at Corsbarn, Wiltshire, abandoning an integrated course that included European studies and the humanities to take up a more traditional timetable where French is French and history is history.

She can be forgiven for being rather muddled as to which board and which examination she is facing at any particular moment. There are after all eight CSE boards and six GCE ones, and there are many different examination methods in each.

Each of the three schools visited had different groupings of compulsory subjects. None kept religious education as a compulsory subject in the way envisaged by the 1944 Education Act.

Upper Nidderdale has just introduced a system of compulsory options, where pupils at the age of 14 must choose four subjects of four lessons each a week. One must be from a science group, one from a craft group and one each from a humanities and modern language group. The pupils seemed to like the arrangement.

The system of allowing 14-year-olds to choose the greater part of their school work seems to work better at Granby, where the children more freely make their own choices, than at Risedale, where many follow their teachers' recommendations.

At Risedale, however, there were quite a few pupils like Susan Smith who had dropped all science subjects. She said: "Only when you have reached a certain standard do teachers recommend you to continue. I am beginning to regret dropping science. I was hopeless at physics and chemistry, but now I think I am going to need biology."

Risedale insists on careers as a compulsory subject and as a result its pupils know a great deal about work in local in-

dustry. Simon Sherrington-Downes, aged 17, said the emphasis at Granby was more on professional careers after university and polytechnic.

He said: "I could not tell you the first thing about industry, except that there are a lot of people on strike all the time, and the TUC has a lot of power. My dad, who works as a company salesman, tells me to keep out of industry and to become my own boss if I can."

More pupils were in favour of keeping physical education (PE) as a compulsory subject than religious education (RE), although Tim Marland thought it should be up to the teacher to decide whether a pupil was so bad that he or she should be relieved from being an embarrassment to the rest of the class.

All the Yorkshire pupils agreed that the joint Matriculation Board's proposed new types of single examinations at 16-plus—a mixture of CSE and GCE—which are still being considered by the Government, were the best and the fairest. Their views on that came out loudest and clearest.

It is a pity that, with the second of the eight regional debates about to start, the consumers of education have had such a little say.

## Fewer took holidays in 1976, but more spent

By Patricia Tisdall

Because of the squeeze on discretionary spending and higher holiday prices three million fewer holidays were taken away from home last year than the year before.

A survey by the British Tourist Authority shows that just under 45 million holidays of four nights or more were taken by Britons in 1976, compared with 48 million in 1975. Trade estimates for this year are that there will be a further decline in holidays.

Expenditure on holidays, however, rose last year by £320m to £2,670m. Of that, £1,210m was spent on holidays abroad, a rise of £130m. Of the 45 million total holidays taken by Britons, 7,500,000, or just over 16 per cent, were spent abroad.

The West Country continues to be the most popular destination for British people (24 per cent of holidays). Wales, the South-east and Scotland were next in order of popularity.

Spain was by far the most popular overseas destination for holidaymakers Britons last year, as in previous years, attracting a 14 per cent share of the total. France came second, with 11 per cent, followed by Italy, 8 per cent, and Greece, 6 per cent. Europe attracted 82 per cent of all holidays abroad last year.

Just over half the Britons who chose foreign holidays preferred inclusive packages. The rest of the holidays were split between those organized independently, 42 per cent, and cruises, 2 per cent.

Average total expenditure a person holidaying in Britain was £39, an increase of £7, or 22 per cent, on the previous year. Average total expenditure a person on holidays abroad last year was £162, also 22 per cent up on the 1975 average.

## Cliff-fall death

Simon Rolfe, aged 17, a member of a school party from Warrington, Surrey, who was injured in a rock fall at Lulworth Cove, Dorset, on Sunday, died in Weymouth and District Hospital yesterday.



Mr Harold Lever, MP (left), and Lord Macpherson of Drumochter (both wearing spectacles) competing in the third annual bridge contest between the Lords and the Commons yesterday, watched by (left to right) Mr Omar Sharif, the actor, Mrs Rixi Marcus, women's world bridge champion, and Mr Peter Jay, Economics Editor of "The Times". Diary, page 14.

## Seven prisoners in every 100 allowed out on parole return to jail

By Our Crime Correspondent

An average of seven prisoners out of every 100 released on parole return to prison while on licence, a Home Office research team announced yesterday.

Any system of discretionary early release from prison obviously involves some risk to the public, it said. "This study has shown that the risk was small during the first two years of the parole scheme, in terms both of the proportion of parolees coming to adverse notice and of the type of behaviour which led to it. Since then, with a rather more liberal

parole policy, misbehaviour on licence, at least as measured by the rate of recall, has become slightly more frequent, but still remains at an encouragingly low level."

Between 1968 when the parole system was introduced, and 1975, authorities in England and Wales considered 71,000 cases for early release from prison but six thousand other cases were not considered because the inmates concerned refused to be considered.

Among the explanations given by some of the men who opted out were: did not think they would get parole; did not want

the "aggravation" of the selection process; did not want to cooperate with the staff or the authorities to get parole; did not want supervision on licence; disapproved of the way the scheme was run; felt they would offend again if released; the police would harass them and ensure their recall; were going to save parole for a longer sentence; would be penalized by the courts if they failed while on parole; applying for parole would suggest they were not innocent.

Parole in England and Wales. A Home Office Research Unit Report (Stationery Office: £1.75).

## Appeal against dismissal by BBC is rejected

By Martin Huckerby

A Portuguese programme assistant who was dismissed from the BBC's external services department for "lapses in professional conduct" has had his appeal against dismissal rejected by an industrial tribunal in London.

The decision is expected to be announced officially today, but Senhor Jorge Ribeiro has been told that the tribunal does not believe he was unfairly dismissed. The tribunal's verdict in the case of a second programme assistant, Senhor Antonio Cartaxo, who was dis-

missed at the same time as Mr Ribeiro, is also expected to be announced today.

The dismissals took 1975 after complaints from the BBC that the Portuguese programme assistant was a pro-communist line in broadcasts. The BBC seven lapses, mainly in the area of programme content, were detailed in a letter from the BBC to the tribunal. Both men appealed fully against dismissal. Mr Gerard Mansell, a director of external broadcasting, and then to Sir Curran, Director-General BBC.

## Farmers are increasing pressure on the Minister Agriculture to get rid of the 'green pound'

## Putting the blame on Irish beef imports

By Hugh Clayton

Agricultural Correspondent

Complaints by British farmers about imports of Irish beef and ominous talk of renewed demonstrations at ports are carefully aimed shots in the campaign for higher agricultural prices. Those who blame Irish beef exporters for keeping down cattle prices in Britain are really stalking a much viler prey.

The target is Mr Silkin, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, who wants curbs on the support prices for farmers win from the EEC. There are many reasons why beef prices have been static this year instead of rising to their usual spring peak. One is that with British prices of roasting joints at more than £1 a pound shoppers are turning more to pork and bacon than they did in 1976.

Farmers resent Mr Silkin's refusal to bow to pressure from them and the European Commission for devaluation of the "green pound", the device by which EEC farm prices are expressed in sterling. British farmers are using the Irish tactic because it has served them well before.

When cattle prices fell sharply in 1974 the Government refused to invoke support offered by the EEC for fear of producing a British beef "mountain". Farmers pickedet English and Welsh ports through which Irish cattle arrived, the Government supported the beef market and there was no mountain.

The reason for British farmers' use of Irish beef in their campaign about support prices this year must be sought in the complexities of the green

pound. Farmers say the phantom currency must be devalued so that they will receive more pound notes with which to finance investment and secure markets for their produce in recovery of costs.

The British Government has kept the green pound unchanged for 15 months so that food prices have been insulated against the increases that would otherwise have come from the fall in the exchange rate for sterling.

The Irish green pound has been devalued twice in the past six months. EEC rules say that differences in farm prices between member states must be ironed out by levies and subsidies from Community funds. British farm prices are among the lowest in the Community, so that the level of compensation paid to EEC suppliers of food to Britain is high.

When the Irish green pound is devalued support prices to Irish farmers go up; so does the level of compensation to Irish suppliers of beef to Britain. The Irish Livestock and Meat Board said after the January devaluation of the Irish green pound: "This should have the effect of concentrating supplies on the United Kingdom market, at least in the short term."

Mr R. J. Williams, secretary of the Anglesey branch of the Farmers' Union of Wales, said: "Irish meat is being dumped here at cut-throat prices." Beef sold in Welsh wholesale markets at the start of the year for 51p was now fetching 46p. The January devaluation left Irish exporters with a total subsidy of more than 91p a pound.

Disruption of the export

market to Britain is so Irish farmers, who rely on sales overseas.

Sales of beef to Britain many EEC countries has been in the past few years. The Irish Republic has seen a decline in its beef cattle exports to Britain. In January, 1976, while beef were down by 10 per cent.

Imports of beef from Holland, Denmark and Germany together were times as great in the quarter of 1976 as earlier. For West Germany, the largest of the three countries and the most active suppliers of meat, dairy products and refined sugar to Britain, the greatest pressure is being felt.

While British farmers plan much about the impact from the devaluation of the green pound, they simply for them to be. They appeal instead for British prices that would attract Irish supply to this country.

Mr Maurice Trumpy, chairman of the livestock panel of the council of the Farmers' Union of Wales, said: "The devaluation of the green pound in 1974 and the devaluation of the green pound in 1976 are a double-edged sword. The British price will be equivalent to that paid by producers in Ireland."

Disruption of the export

## No prosecution after Teessid school inquiry

Cleveland police have decided that there will be no prosecution after their inquiry into the Teessid High School for Girls, at Eaglescliffe, last year.

The police started their inquiry after Miss Mary I was dismissed as head of the school. The school's senior staff then said that she had been dismissed for "lapses in professional conduct" in regard to domestic problems, which concerned the school.

The police said that advice had been given to the Director of Public Prosecutions that there had been no prosecution.

## ment an issue

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## OVERSEAS

# Mr Smith plans to open up white farmland for purchase by Rhodesians of any colour

From Michael Knipe  
Salisbury, Feb 23

Mr Smith, the Rhodesian Prime Minister, announced in Parliament today his Government's long awaited plans for the removal of various forms of racially discriminatory legislation.

The most dramatic measure is the proposed opening up of white and some African agricultural land for purchase by people of all races. This significant modification of the controversial Land Tenure Act, which divides the country equally between the quarter million whites and six million Africans, is the very heart of the ruling Rhodesian Front's policies. However, it is accompanied by various checks and balances that would appear to safeguard white interests.

In essence, Mr Smith has indicated his Government's belief in acceptance of most of the proposals set out in the 1976 Commission of Enquiry into racial discrimination. Several of the most important recommendations, including the opening up of agricultural land to all races, will initially be referred to the Government. One measure proposed by the commission, a return to a common roll for voters, was ignored by Mr Smith today.

Although some of the measures to be adopted are relatively dramatic in the white Rhodesian context, they are far from radical given the acceptance by Mr Smith on September 24, of the introduction of

majority rule within two years. Last April all the African nationalist factions dismissed the Quenet commission's proposals as irrelevant and they will clearly regard them as even more so today.

In parliament today Mr Smith said the measure "under contemplation" would have "far-reaching consequences in the social and economic life of our country". They would afford "eloquent testimony to the Government's sincerity and honesty of purpose in tackling this vital question".

Health facilities and residential areas are to remain segregated, although Mr Smith gave an ambiguous indication that some urban areas—apparently new ones—might eventually be open to "plural occupation". The introduction of such areas would be "gradual and unhurried" and would be subject to the advice of local municipal authorities.

The land to be opened up for purchase by people of all races will be the 46.5 per cent at present owned by whites and the 3.8 per cent designated as African purchase land. The latter trust land, accounting for 42 per cent, will remain reserved.

Mr Smith said it was essential to ensure that the land was properly used and that it would not be subdivided by allowing squatters. The Government's intention was that agricultural land would continue to be properly utilized, whoever the owners were.

The necessary supporting

legislation would be introduced to achieve that and "should there be any security risk attached, this will be dealt with in terms of the appropriate emergency regulations".

These provisions seem likely to provide checks on the ability of Africans to take over white farms.

Mr Smith said that racial restrictions imposed on hotels and other licensed premises would be removed "subject to the proprietors' right to reserve admission".

Listing measures already being introduced, Mr Smith said that at schools, multiracial sports and other social activities were now allowed at the discretion of the school councils and parent-teacher associations, and the restrictions on the proportion of African children at private schools to 6 per cent of the total intake had been removed.

He said a change had been made in the ban on Africans patronizing licensed premises in white areas after 7 pm. As a result proprietors could "seek authority" for licensing hours to be extended for patrons.

The Rhodesian Government listed various measures for the recruitment and training of Africans for the defence and police forces, the judiciary, prison service and railways. One Rhodesian observer said the measures announced were "a good start" in white Rhodesian terms for removing racial discrimination, but they were unlikely to impress the international community.



The Duke of Edinburgh shares a joke with the crowd in an Auckland street yesterday.

## Trust set up to mark royal tour

From Our Correspondent  
Wellington, Feb 23

The size of the crowds which turned out to greet the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh suggests that this Silver Jubilee tour will prove even more popular than the previous royal visit in 1972. The royal couple began the second day of the New Zealand visit at Whangarei, in the far north, before flying to Hamilton, south of Auckland, the large provincial centre of Waikato, the rich dairy country.

Crowds crammed every vantage point as the royal couple strolled through the main street at midday. Extra police were brought in to control the excited crowds but the spontaneity of the occasion was preserved.

Later the Queen watched three horse races at a meeting nearby and presented the Queen Elizabeth Gold Cup trophy to the representative of the American owner of one of the winning horses, called Good Lord.

Back in Auckland tonight the Queen and the Duke were entertained at a garden party at Government House. The Duke was later the guest speaker at a dinner marking the seventy-fifth convention of the New Zealand Employers' Federation.

At this dinner Mr Robert Muldoon, the Prime Minister, announced the setting up of an industrial relations trust to administer scholarships named after Prince Philip. The scholarships will support education training in industrial relations and research. Mr Muldoon said that the cabinet had approved the allocation of £20,000 a year and support was expected from the employers.

The Duke spoke of the changing industrial society. He said that there were many examples to show that any sufficiently determined group which was prepared to ignore any negative feedback, could come to dominate a society and deny personal liberty to the majority. Whether this was done for sectional advantage was immaterial.

Earlier today Mr Muldoon announced the establishment of the Queen Elizabeth II National Trust in commemoration of the Silver Jubilee visit. The trust would operate in an "environmental area" to ensure that sufficient open space was provided for the needs of New Zealanders.

Mr Muldoon said that the trust's function would be to protect the character of the landscape and scenic values, and provide a variety of recreational opportunities. Membership would be available to individuals, private organizations and corporate bodies.

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# Mr Bhutto blamed for loss of E Pakistan

From Our Correspondent  
Rawalpindi, Feb 23

The Pakistan military commander who signed the surrender document that ended the Bangladesh war joined the battle today to defeat Mr Bhutto's Government in next month's elections.

General Amir Abdullah Khan Niazi, now retired from the Army, was once the most detested man in the country, but he regained public sympathy after spending two years as a prisoner of war of the Indians. A crowd of about 100,000 people turned out in Lahore today to hear him speak on behalf of the Pakistan National Alliance, a combination of nine opposition parties.

Without naming Mr Bhutto, General Niazi blamed the loss of East Pakistan on the failure of a politician who was not prepared to sit in opposition after the 1970 elections. Indeed it was Sheikh Mujib, the Awami League leader and champion of Bangladesh, not Mr Bhutto, who won a majority in that election.

General Niazi, who virtually ruled Dacca in its last 10 months as part of Pakistan, said his suggestions for a political settlement had gone unheeded by the Government.

He declared his readiness to fight the last battle and last but he had been ordered Rawalpindi to lay down arms.

The meeting was addressed by Begum Waheed Khan, wife of the leader. Her husband, president of the Pakistan National Awami Party, is trial before a special court charged of high treason.

Meanwhile Air Asghar Khan, the former Force chief with whom Mr Niazi has been working recently, said in Karachi this week that the respect his meetings throughout the country showed that the National Alliance had a place away over public but they were faced with a man who would cling to power.

If the result announced the elections on March 11, the public meetings, he said, would be a "miraculous situation".

The military general who returned to Pakistan after release, all political prisoners and hold trials of those who abused their positions.

## Republican wins in Minnesota

From Our Own Correspondent  
Washington, Feb 23

A Republican has won a sweeping victory in a special election for one of the Minnesota seats in the House of Representatives. The seat became vacant when Mr Bob Bergland was appointed Secretary of Agriculture by President Carter.

The district is a vast, sparsely populated farming country and the Democratic candidate had worked for Mr Bergland in Washington. His opponent, Mr Arlan Strangeland, is a popular local farmer and voters apparently decided they preferred someone they knew. Mr Strangeland won by 70,000 to 40,000, with most of the votes cast last night.

The loss is something of a blow to Vice-President Mondale, a former Senator from Minnesota.

## Falklands talks 'positive'

Buenos Aires, Feb 23

Edward Rowlands, Minister for the Foreign Office, today said his two-day talks with the Argentine Government on the future of the Falklands were very constructive.

"They were very good positive", he added.

Mr Rowlands made his statement as he left the Foreign Office for lunch with Argentine negotiators headed by Señor Gualea, the Deputy Foreign Minister.

Mr Rowlands' visit, preceded by a five-day visit to the Falklands, marked the first official contact between the two countries since the British reduced their diplomatic relations to chargé d'affaires level a year ago.—Reuters

## Moscow denial that Swiss officer was a spy

Moscow, Feb 23—A Soviet

journal denied today that the former head of the Swiss air defence, Brigadier Jean-Louis Jeannaire, who is accused in Switzerland of spying for Moscow, had ever passed secret information to the Soviet Union.

The weekly Literary Gazette said the Jeannaire case was part of an international campaign by the enemies of détente to discredit Soviet policy. It implied that the evidence had been fabricated by the West.

Brigadier Jeannaire, who was in charge of Swiss air raid protection, was arrested last August. He is due to appear before a military tribunal accused of passing secret information to Soviet diplomats in Bern.

The Literary Gazette said Jeannaire did not communicate any spy data to Soviet representatives.

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## Rivalry between the Rhodesian guerrilla forces likely topic in Zambia talks

From Nicholas Ashford  
Lusaka, Feb 23

While senior British and American officials have been meeting in Washington to discuss a possible new initiative on Rhodesia, two of the African "front line" leaders, President Kaunda of Zambia and President Machel of Mozambique, are to begin two days of talks tomorrow at a game lodge in the Luangwa National Park north-east of Lusaka.

Consensually the talks are to review cooperation between the two countries, but it seems certain the presidents will turn their attention to Rhodesia.

No new peace initiative is expected from the talks. Since the collapse of Mr E. R. D. Banda's mission last month, the "front line" leaders have been waiting to hear whether Britain and the United States can produce any new suggestions for resuming peace negotiations.

There are immediate concerns to them, particularly to the leaders of Zambia and Mozambique, is the intensification of the guerrilla war and the unification of the guerrilla forces.

At present, the forces belonging to the Zimbabwe African People's Union (Zapu), led by Mr Joshua Nkomo, operate from Zambia, while those belonging to Mr Mugabe's Zimbabwe African National Union (Zanu) are based in Mozambique.

Recently, the Patriotic Front, a loose alliance between the two organizations, established a

10-member coordinating committee with the aim of bringing the Zapu and Zanu fighting groups into one nationalist army. So far there has been little progress.

The "front line" states—Angola, Botswana, Mozambique, Zambia and Zimbabwe—are aware that deep tribal and ideological differences separate the two groups. They are particularly concerned that the present build-up of forces by the two organizations could preface an eventual confrontation between them.

The meeting between the two presidents takes place against a background of a continuing exodus of black students from Rhodesia to Botswana, Zambia and Zimbabwe. They are being sent to guerrilla training camps. Well over 1,200 have left Rhodesia since the beginning of the month and more are crossing the border each day.

Children arriving in Lusaka from Francistown, in northern Botswana, during the past few days. The Botswana Government is using chartered aircraft to ferry them to Zambia. The aircraft, which arrived yesterday carried only girls, aged between 12 and 18.

On arrival in Lusaka they are transported by Zambian Government lorries to a Zapu camp at Nampundwe, about 40 miles west of the capital, for a 15-year period. Liberia and Sierra Leone are also expected to push the cost of imported American cars beyond the pockets of the middle class.

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## Fewer US officials will be allowed access to secrets

Washington, Feb 23—President Carter has ordered a reduction from 40 to five in the number of officials with access to highly sensitive intelligence information.

Mr Carter's action followed press reports last week that the Central Intelligence Agency paid millions of dollars to King Hussein of Jordan and other foreign leaders over several years, Senator Alan Cranston, a California Democrat, told reporters yesterday after congressional leaders met with the President at the White House.

The President also expressed concern that several committees in Congress received sensitive intelligence data. He discussed the possibility of cutting this number but did not directly say that this was done, Senator Cranston said.

He also said that Mr Carter was concerned about the inability to keep secrets

and discussed at length the activities of the CIA following the reports about payments to various foreign leaders.

In the past, Congress has complained that Presidents have used the question of leaks to the press as an excuse for withholding important information.

President Carter, judging from his Budget plan, has more faith than his predecessor in the Government's ability to manage vast programmes efficiently. He seems determined to strengthen the Government rather than share power with state and local authorities. He is not concerned about weakening the free enterprise system by initiating government involvement in areas traditionally left to the private sector.

President Ford had sought to strengthen state and local government vis-à-vis Washington. He proposed the scrapping of many federal transportation, education, housing and health

programmes, and their replacement with block cash grants to municipal governments. President Carter's Budget calls for the maintenance, and in some cases the expansion, of these federal programmes and for the rejection of his predecessor's block grant concept.

Mr Ford was more concerned with the effects of inflation on middle-income earners than on the plight of the poor. He advocated tax cuts that would have bolstered the real incomes of the middle classes, but would have done little for those on low incomes, whose gains would have been largely offset by social security tax increases.

President Carter has rejected the proposals to raise social security taxes. He has proposed broad tax cuts for all, and special cash payments principally benefiting those on low incomes. These have been designed so that benefits will also be provided for those too poor to pay income tax.

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## Mr Carter seems determined to strengthen the power of the Federal Government

## US Budget shows policy change

From Frank Vogl  
Washington, Feb 23

The Carter Administration's 1978 Budget proposals offer the first broad and significant guide to the distinct policy changes now being planned in Washington. The proposals clearly indicate the differences between the Ford and Carter administrations, after an election campaign that emphasized contrasts of personality rather than policy.

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Mr Ford fervently believed that many domestic social assistance programmes were wasteful. He betrayed a lack of

compassion for the poorest in American society with proposals to reduce domestic assistance programmes sharply and to veto legislation to expand these programmes. He also believed that the programmes enabled people to cheat the Government, to avoid full-time employment and to prosper from government payments.

President Carter rejects these views. His Budget expands programmes that aid the unemployed, while increasing spending to support a comprehensive child nutrition programme, extended benefits to students and armed services veterans, and health care for the poor and the aged.

Mr Ford did little more than pay lip service to the growing demands for improved government efforts in the area of civil rights. The new Administration's concern is evident from its Budget proposals to increase appropriations to the civil rights division of the Department of Justice and from its plan to establish a task-force to find ways to reduce racial discrimination. The changes in policy are of substance and not just style.

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Mr Nicholas Edwards, chief Opposition spokesman on Wales (Pembroke) said that the House realized that it would have to debate more than 50 clauses in not more than three days. He said that the country would realize that not more than one-third of the Bill was likely to be debated at all if the Government had had more time.

They were voting, not on a mere procedural motion, but to decide whether the House could exercise its constitutional function.

Mr John Smith, Minister of State, Privy Council Office (North Lanarkshire, Lab), said he had felt that the Government had paid too much attention to the SNP, and to its pretension to speak for the people of Scotland.

The Liberals, who claimed to be committed revolutionists, now that for the first time for many years a radical reform was on the agenda of this Parliament were seeking for ways to wriggle out of their commitment towards devolved Scotland.

The serious challenge to the unity of the United Kingdom did not come from the Bill but from the fact that the Government were not prepared to bring it to a vote for their own purposes, to break it up. It was far better to found unity upon the recognition of the diversity of the United Kingdom.











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# Devolution: How MPs exposed the old parliamentary 'confidence' trick

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# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## THE FIRST HOME RULE BILL IS DEAD

revolt by thirty-seven members of Parliament that it will not be possible to pass the Devolution Bill in its current form through the House of Commons. That is surprising. Even the terms of the Bill admitted that it was defective, and that would on its terms be a sign of conflict between the House of Commons and the House of Lords. The proposed system of government had no solution of the problem of finance. Yet it was these defects which led to the guillotine motion, the recentment of English members that Scotland should have advantages denied to their constituents. The failure of the guillotine is a very serious political issue for the Government. The Devolution Bill was a central part of this session of Parliament. It provided a reason for the Nationalists to support the Government so long as it stood a chance of passing. That reason has now been removed, and the Scottish nationalists say that they would bring the Government down as quickly as possible. It does not mean that there is an immediate collapse of government or a general election in the next few weeks; it does make it unlikely that the Government will be able to carry on for the period between the next two general elections. The Prime Minister would have to have a very difficult time of his administration has been weakened. The constitutional issue is important than the political question of Scotland's relationship to the United Kingdom. It will not disappear because it could be called the first Home Rule Bill. The future of the Home Rule depends very much upon the will of the people. If there is a general election, the demand for devolution, full independence, then demand will have to be met. There is a second Home Rule Bill that will have to be passed before the present one. Any attempt to find a formula

between the present Bill and doing nothing will certainly fail and would merely irritate Scottish opinion. The inadequacies of the Labour Bill will not be remedied by making it more feeble or more anomalous. It is indeed desirable that there should be a constitutional conference. But such a conference will not take into account the constitutional requirements of the whole of the United Kingdom and not merely of Scotland. The lesson of this Bill must be learnt. It is that devolution for such an important part of the United Kingdom as Scotland must be related to constitutional development in the whole of the United Kingdom. Our constitution must continue to be symmetrical, because if symmetry is failed, the least favoured section will reject the scheme which disadvantages them. It was the Labour members who represented disadvantaged English constituencies who passed sentence of death on this measure. This means that any devolved system to be acceptable has to be federal in character, because only a federal system offers equal benefits to all parts of the community. Britain can have unitary government or federal government, but we cannot have a unitary government for England and a federal government for Scotland and Wales. It is impossible to have a federal system in which some of the federated states are nations and the others are regions. That is the situation in the Federal Republic of Germany where a separate nation with a strong sense of national history and identity, and its own political attitudes, but most of the Länder are regional rather than national in their character. The first question the English will have to decide is whether they want to have a federation or not. For England the attraction of a federation would be that it would permit the continued unity of the United Kingdom; it would provide for the demands of Scotland. The establishment of a federal constitution would also include a Bill of Rights for which there is some genuine demand. The South of England, which is predominantly Conservative in its politics, would be able to construct a society nearer

to its real wishes in those matters which were devolved to the regions. As against this there are strong national pressures for uniformity and for centralization. The idea of a federated state of Wessex, as prosperous as an English Switzerland, with a Conservative Prime Minister and a Liberal Leader of the Opposition, pursuing policies of educational excellence and public thrift, and looking to Salisbury as its capital, is an attractive one. It is certainly the necessary English equivalent to a Scotland governed from Edinburgh while remaining inside the United Kingdom. But is such a concept strong enough to overcome the forms of inertia, bureaucracy and equality, all at once? It is not obvious that the English would be willing to sacrifice their own unity for the sake of maintaining the unity of the United Kingdom. The logical sequence of questions runs in this way. The first is: federation or no federation? If no federation, then the questions are: Scotland to stay in, or go independent? Wales, in or out? The Government were right to endeavour to meet the strong feeling for devolution in Scotland, if wrong in the way they tried to meet it. They have proved that you can no more have two constitutions, one for England and one for Scotland, than you could maintain the United States, half slave and half free. The Government's attempt at a devolution Bill has itself established that there is no majority support for a system which is federal in respect of the minority nations but unitary in respect of the largest nation. That leaves the question of a general federation now to be determined. There are powerful arguments for moving in that direction, but it must be some time before the British people fully appreciate what the question is, let alone feel sure that they know their own minds on how the question should be answered. The danger is that they will take too long, as constitutional changes almost always do. By the time England is ready for a federal solution, Scotland may have lost patience with any solution that maintains the United Kingdom. That, after all, was the history of Irish home rule, a history we seem quite likely to repeat.

## Return to free collective bargaining

From Sir Keith Joseph, MP, for Leeds, North East (Conservative). Sir, My friend Lord Caldecote wants (Letters, February 16) to "smoke out" those who favour a return to free collective bargaining. I, for one, am ready to stand up and be counted. I disagree with Lord Caldecote because I cannot accept his premise—that incomes policy and the social contract are economically beneficial. I argue that these arrangements, far from helping the economy, are a root cause of the inflation, unemployment, stagnation and balance of payments crises which have plagued us over the past two years. If these measures are continued, the ills will be intensified. Let me restate my reasons. First, the halving of the very high inflation rate experienced during Labour's first 18 months cannot be ascribed to the formal incomes policy/social contract of 1975—but to the predictable and predicted lagged results of sharp deflation in the money supply growth imposed by Ted Heath and Tony Barber in late 1973, leading to reduced economic activity and reduced demand for labour. The Union cannot increasingly recognize that jobs were vulnerable, although rescues and job preservation subsidies by the Government, again as part of the social contract, discouraged restraint in some cases. The Government, the unions, the Government and unions, while lower than some groups—and executives—would have obtained, was higher than many groups would have got. The "quid pro quo" to the unions for the "restraint" which they were in most cases have observed, included price and dividend controls, threatening jobs and expansion; lavish government spending leading to huge borrowing, with disastrous results for sterling; damage to the pound and increased taxation, destroying incentives at all levels. Yet Lord Caldecote urges that we continue the social contract for fear of massive pay increases otherwise. A massive pay increase by widespread means would be a disaster, and promised the IMF to maintain a ring fence of monetary restraint round the economy? As Mr Healey explained at Leeds on January 4, "Wages can only rise above the level permitted by the supply of labour at the cost of throwing people out of work." In the private sector, particularly where management has explained the realities to employees, this truth will be generally recognized. But excessive wage increases could destroy jobs and it is understandable that some employers would prefer an "incomes policy" defence

against wage claims. But this attitude could be fatal. Every ounce of relief for private sector management in their wage and labour relations will be bought through the social contract by erosion of their viability and independence. What is Bullock but yet another part of the price for incomes policy? That is why private firms have no choice but to conduct their own wage bargaining. The private sector is to survive. There is no room for further retreat. Of course the real worry remains the state sector—which includes public pensioners like Leyland and Govan Shipyard. But the Government in relation to the public sector will be subject to the monetary ring fence also. So long as the Government devalued the pound, it will have to need to buy incomes policy. Both Lord Caldecote and the Chancellor agree that anything more than modest pay increases must lead to higher unemployment. What leads them to suppose that union leaders and their members are any less capable of understanding the facts? Lord Caldecote admits that "a permanent 'rigid incomes policy' is impracticable in a democracy, yet he urges that we continue with incomes policy. But a non-rigid incomes policy is a contradiction in terms. And, for those who want another year, will it be any easier than to convince ourselves with the distortions, disincentives and other penalties of the social contract festering and intensifying? It will be more difficult, not less, to disengage from the time. Mr Healey criticizes me for agreeing on this subject with some Communist union leaders. But why not? Since the Government's policies contain irreconcilable contradictions, they will be rejected by the union attitudes. Some union leaders think primarily of their members' interests—short or long term: some are primarily political and see incomes policy/social contract as a means of extending Socialist power: others see the path to Socialism because it seems so circuitous or because they temperamentally favour traditional class struggle or because competition inside the left precludes "letting them" out. I, by contrast, oppose because I do not want the market economy destroyed, be it in the manner of Russian bear or British bullock. If Mr Healey is really concerned at an "unholy alliance" with the Communists, he would do well to consider the fact. Yours faithfully, KEITH JOSEPH, House of Commons, February 23.

## Rebuilding the inner cities

From Sir Frank Marshall, Sir, The older "Industrial Revolution" areas which contemporaneously emerged have obsolesced contemporaneously. The removal of their inner city cores to make way for six-lane urban highways and other not unrelated artifacts of "planning" also remove many medium-sized businesses which, in default of industrial development certificates, either moved away or closed down altogether. So, by purchase (compulsory or otherwise) the local authorities (whose appetite historically outstrips their resources) Mr G. W. Mason (February 21) rightly says) fell heir to much valuable urban land. Since then there has been neither the political will nor the financial resources to renew the fabric of urban life. The policy for new towns effectively saw to that. Now fresh awareness may spur the political will, but the combined resources of local and central government are quite unequal to such a daunting task. It would surely be better for local authorities to make a present of such land in parcels of suitable size to anyone able and willing to develop it within the discipline of an over all inner city plan (which would include commercial development to provide jobs and thus help sustain the economy of the area as a whole) than to contemplate for much longer these urban deserts. Yours, etc, FRANK MARSHALL, Wigton Manor, Manor House Lane, Alwoodley, Leeds, February 22.

From Lord Taylor of Harlow, Sir, The suggestion that failure to build the new towns of our great cities is due in some way to the creation of New Towns is untrue. New Towns are one of the relatively few success stories in Britain since the last war. Not only have they rehoused over 850,000 people and provided a vast range of working conditions and an effective social environment; they have done this at a good financial return to the nation. This remarkable achievement is due to their sound administrative structure and to the fact that they were operating largely in virgin territory. New Towns were created partly to make possible the reconstruction of the centres of our great cities. In London, densities of over 200 people to the acre rising to over 400 in the centre of the city, were reduced by no means uncommon. It was from such areas of overcrowding and physical decay that the New Towns drew much of their population. Densities of this order make good family life impossible; as Professor Abercrombie taught us, massive export of population was an essential before reconstruction could begin. The failure of the reconstruction of the central core of the great cities is partly due to the complexities of land ownership; but it must, in all honesty, be partly ascribed to the failure of the development machinery of the municipal authorities. Attempts to attribute the failures of elected municipalities to the success of appointed New Towns are both untrue and unfair. Yours faithfully, TAYLOR OF HARLOW, House of Lords, February 19.

## ES SILENCE LEND SUPPORT?

ent Amin has reacted to ride protests and contention by hastily inventing glo-American-Zionist plot to invade Uganda from an air-carrier. The scenario is sized from the Republic—formerly Dahomey—however, some actors directed to perform the script. It is very obvious. He to make sure that the states support him off in the Organisation of a Unity, in the United States and (if possible) in the UN, as they did over the hijacking of an Israeli aircraft, using voting power in the United States to prevent his condemnation. In private they were delighted by his utterance at the hands of the is, but publicly they add to a convention that Africa must support each other against all outsiders, on id every issue. I would allege rampantism if the white-skinned were unable to defend eads of Rhodesia or South Africa. They must put up with their present conspiracy of a President Amin is d as hypocrisy by the out world. It is hypocrisy, yet eds to be understood. It is in large part from African unity and paranoia: from fragility of most African ments and the night-fears ose who (temporarily) wear town. Because most Afri-

can countries harbour refugees from other ruling groups' mission government, tribalism and persecution, who sometimes succeed in engineering a coup, the "ins" do have an informal trade union against the "outs", and non-interference in each others' domestic affairs is revered far more in the OAU charter than in the UN charter. To abandon it would unleash incalculable forces—there are examples afield. No doubt Presidents Nyerere and Kenyatta hope the world will note that their newspapers have attacked General Amin unreservedly, and this could not happen if they had not been tipped the official wink. Nor could the service in Nairobi Cathedral have happened as it did. But they are realists and will ask what practical good official protests would do. Uganda has a large army and Kenya a tiny one, while President Nyerere, who has no army at all, at least has allowed Ugandan exiles to attempt some revolts against Amin from his territory. They, and the OAU, will probably hope that Amin will now become more discreet in his methods. Yet there are reasons why the Africans should reconsider their posture. It is perhaps one thing to keep silent when an African tyrant brutalizes an African population. It is surely another when a group of non-Africans do the same under an African aegis. The OAU was sufficiently

worried about the Cubans in Luanda to mount a mission of enquiry. It is time they began to pay attention to the group of Libyans, Palestinians, Sudanese and Saudi Arabians who increasingly sit at the controls in Kampala. The General Service Unit, which is manned by Sudanese as well as Ugandan Moslems is now as much their instrument of power as it is Amin's. They are technically indispensable, but they are also doing very well out of the army's plunder and intimidation of the Ugandan Christians. There may be fanatics who see in this situation a natural continuation of Islamic southwards penetration of black Africa. But this is not the view of Ugandans who can speak out, and it was very proper for the Uganda Action Group, a respectable association of Ugandans in exile that includes former officials and members of parliament, to send a telegram to the Secretary-General of the Arab League protesting that President Amin is exploiting Islam for his own irreligious ends. So far the silence over Amin's regime extends to the Moslem world, and a repudiation of the aid that it is getting from certain Middle East states would do good. It cannot serve the ends of any religion to seem indifferent to the inhumanities of the Amin regime, and it is time that the African states begin to ask just who they are helping when they turn an official blind eye to ever uglier developments in Uganda.

## Strain on Ministers

From Mrs Hector McNeill, Sir, I have just been listening to Shirley Williams on whether the strain on Ministers is causing their premature deaths. With some of her points I agree, with others I don't. But I do agree that many men in public life die at an early age through overwork—Hugh Gaitskill, Tony Crosland, Iain Macleod. I have always maintained that my late husband, Hector McNeill, died at the age of 48 from overwork. His death was almost a carbon copy of Tony Crosland's, one of his colleagues. I have watched Mrs Crosland's agony with more than ordinary sympathy and understanding. Her husband was dashing about the world with little time even to pack his bags—she, no doubt, did that for him; he was kept out of his bed by all night sittings due to the small majority in the House; he then had to read the papers before getting any rest and had to be in his office early, and also look after his constituency. All this was applicable in my husband's case when he was Secretary of State for Scotland in the 1950/51 winter. At that time there was a majority of six and Winston Churchill made a point of forcing all-night sittings with a view to bringing down the Government—which he could have done as there was no real coalition, so that, of Liberals, Scottish Nationalists, Welsh Nationalists, two Irish MPs

and Mr Enoch Powell, to get the Government out of their troubles. Mrs Williams said "MPs were much grunder, going to their constituencies, waving out of their car windows and not doing surgeries." How wrong she is. My husband and I—I was his unpaid secretary—did a constituency surgery every month, 4 or 5 hours at a stretch—and I did not get my fare paid for the constituency—and when he was Secretary he had two Under Secretaries more than that. He spent practically every weekend in Scotland and many week nights in all night sittings in the House. What the answer is I do not know. No matter how many extra Ministers of State are added Under Secretaries are appointed, the people always want, eventually, to deal with the Secretary of State. Perhaps more Departments with Secretaries of State, but that just increases the number of bureaucrats, who have chosen Government else. But men and women choose this life: they don't have to. The strains are perhaps not obvious when they choose, but a man leads his life as he wishes and I do not think any of these men who died prematurely would have chosen anything else and they certainly contributed much more to their country than many who live to 80 or 90. Yours sincerely, SHEILA MCNEILL, 12 Lochmore House, Elgin Square, SW1, February 20.

## Soviet dissidents

From Lord Bethell, Sir, The front page of The Times of February 19 gave prominent display to an article by Edmund Stevens suggesting that President Carter's letter to Dr Sakharov could have "serious repercussions" on Soviet-American relations, perhaps even jeopardizing arms talks, and that it might even have been inspired by hard-line Soviet leaders anxious to topple the "liberal" Mr Brezhnev. It has been suggested that the new President is allowing his personal moral views to triumph over his statesmanship, that he is endangering the peace of the world in order to enforce a debatable principle. The truth is that the President's right to comment directly with a Soviet dissident is dictated not only by personal morality, but also by the Helsinki Final Act and the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights, to both of which the Soviet Union has bound itself. In 1975 Mr Brezhnev undertook to expedite the reunification of families, to import more Western newspapers and not to penalize Western journalists for doing their job. He also promised, no doubt with his tongue in his cheek, to "respect human rights and fundamental freedoms". He has broken these promises. The President could likewise refer Mr Brezhnev to Article 12 of the Declaration of Human Rights, which runs: "No one shall be subjected to arbitrary interference with his privacy, family, home or corre-

pondence." It is only because the Soviet Union violates this article that Dr Sakharov was forced to make his dramatic visit to the United States Embassy in Moscow. If Mr Brezhnev wishes to write to Mr Gus Hall, the American communist leader, he can place his letter in a mail box and it will arrive. As your leader today (February 21) points out, if Mr Brezhnev ever intended to observe certain parts of the Helsinki agreement, he should not have signed it. But can the President really be blamed for trying to enforce these existing agreements? The Soviet Union has also claimed that the President's letter is an interference in her internal affairs. But if this is a crime, the Soviet Union is equally guilty, if not more so. Her embassies in the West maintain close links with local communist parties. They send delegates to trade union gatherings. They give lavish entertainment to pro-Soviet politicians. They attack the Conservative Party and its leader. The English service of Moscow Radio has accused the British authorities of "cold-bloodedly watching Frank Stage die in Wakefield Prison" and of "giving the actual go-ahead to the white racist regime in Rhodesia". The President's act in sending the letter therefore causes alarm, soundly based as it is on international agreement and on the principle of reciprocity, which Mr Brezhnev understands well. Yours sincerely, LORD BETHELL, House of Lords, February 21.

## The Falkland Islands

From Mr David Stephen, Sir, The first reactions to the Government's announcement that it is to send a Task Force to Buenos Aires to talk about the Falkland Islands (The Times, February 3) have concentrated, understandably enough, on the situation of the islanders. It is too much to hope that on the rare occasion when Britain does stand a chance of exerting real influence she will use it for the good of all the people of the area—including the 11,000 Anglo-Argentines. I have never met an Argentine who does not feel passionately about the Falkland Islands. Indeed, in a bitterly divided country, this is a theme which unites everyone, from far left to far right. Depending on the political views of the Argentine, views are advanced—ranging from imperialism to infiltration—on why Britain remains in the Falklands. (No one, in Britain or in Argentina, seems to realize that the islands are basically barren, with no oil and no sheep farming—dominated by a semi-fraudulent monopoly.) Every Argentine regards British "occupation" of the Falklands as an insult to Argentine nationalism. My point is that any Argentine Government which could assert Argentine sovereignty over the Falklands will earn a place in history and become enormously popular in the country. It follows from this that any British Government which sits down to discuss the issue with Argentina is offering her, at least potentially, a political prize of enormous value. Any responsible British Government cannot, therefore, enter discussions on this subject without being conscious of the impact the outcome of such discussions will have inside Argentina. Obviously a major and entirely legitimate preoccupation of Mr Rowlands and his colleagues will be the physical fate of the islanders

in any link up or association with Argentina. He will be bound to ask, for example, whether the Argentine Government would be able to protect the islands from the dual danger of Argentine terrorism which now endangers the lives of ordinary Argentines. He will be bound to seek assurances that human rights, accepted as normal in Britain, would be guaranteed in any future agreement. This is not interference in Argentina's internal affairs but an entirely necessary exercise of Britain's responsibility for the islanders. If it were felt that sovereignty should be transferred or pooled—and there are pressing political and economic forces pushing Britain in that direction—Britain should not forgo the opportunity of exercising a favourable influence on Argentine politics—entirely consistent, as I have said, with Britain's concern for the islanders. Notably, President Videla has lost one of his colleagues who favour an early return to democracy would be encouraged—if Britain made, in any talks on sovereignty, the conditions that she would only permit a democratic Argentina to exercise any sovereignty over the islanders. Democracy inside Argentina would never forgive Britain if she handed the islands over and allowed the fascists to reap the benefits, but a judicious agreement which looked to the future both of the islanders and the Argentines—and which took a clear line on human rights—would be of incalculable value to Argentina, to Britain, and to Anglo-Argentine relations. Yours faithfully, DAVID STEPHEN, Avenida 381, San Pedro Montes de Oca, San Jose, Costa Rica, February 7.

## Racial equality

From Mr Sam Springer, Sir, I would like to express my disagreement with comments made in Neville Hodgkinson's article "Race Commission Plans Criticized" (The Times, February 9). He says that there is widespread criticism against the latest proposals for the staffing and structure of the Commission for Racial Equality, on the grounds that it over-emphasizes the law enforcement aspects of the CRE's work. The argument really is about priorities, because the CRE will have the duty of eliminating discrimination by using all its resources and power under the 1976 Act. Both the law enforcement and educational/advisory aspects of the CRE's work are essential: they complement one another. Ethnic minority groups would like to see the CRE using its powers in the most effective manner possible to eliminate discrimination and to secure full equality of opportunity. As one involved in race relations over a number of years, it is my assessment that ethnic minority groups would like to see the CRE adopting an aggressive approach and this means treating the law enforcement aspects as being of primary importance. After all, in successive Annual Reports the Race Relations Board has asked for increased powers in order to do its job more effectively. These powers have been granted under the 1976 Act, and should be used vigorously to eliminate discrimination. The advisory and educational role of the CRE should be regarded as being supplementary to the strict law enforcement role. It should be borne in mind that the 1976 Act is an attempt to deal with discrimination in a completely different, and hopefully more effective

way. It requires a new perspective and a dynamic approach, without which it is hard to see how the EEC directive that our financial years should end on December 31. The relevant question is not "Why April 5?" but "When will our political year end in line with the EEC directive that our financial years should end on December 31?" Since the Chancellor is pledged to reduce income tax, why not do this with the aid of a special Jubilee Tax Year of 270 days only? Complicated legislation is not required but in essence a short clause in the Finance Bill providing for the tax year which commences on April 6 next to end on December 31, 1977. In this way twelve months' personal allowances would be offset by just nine months' income and the higher incomes of middle managers would be taxed at lower hard rates. As a result we may all have enough cash to make a Jubilee treat. If not round Fiji or Tonga, the round Frimton or Tunbridge Wells. Yours faithfully, IAN MORGAN, 23 Blatchington Road, Tunbridge Wells, 1 mt, February 21.

call Mr Tony Soper The account of an uncomfortable night spent on Rockall by the hunter, temporarily abandoned in the fog by the steam yacht When the anonymous writer traced by the editors of the *Is of Scottish Natural History*, a sorry you should have taken imaginary description of a visit to Rockall—only meant to amuse—a contribution to science. I was at Rockall. There is an excellent account of the affair and a survey of both and false landings on Rockall by the time of its annexation by and party from HMS Vidal, the late James Fisher's book, published in 1956 by Geol. Soc. of London. Yours faithfully, TONY SOPER, Life Expeditions Limited, over Town, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 343, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, 378, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 389, 390, 391, 392, 393, 394, 395, 396, 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814, 815, 816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 822, 823, 824, 825, 826, 827, 828, 829, 830, 831, 832, 833, 834, 835, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 845, 846, 847, 848, 849, 850, 851, 852, 853, 854, 855, 856, 857, 858, 859, 860, 861, 862, 863, 864, 865, 866, 867, 868, 869, 870, 871, 872, 873, 874, 875, 876, 877, 878, 879, 880, 881, 882, 883, 884, 885, 886, 887, 888, 889, 890, 891, 892, 893, 894, 895, 896, 897, 898, 899, 900, 901, 902, 903, 904, 905, 906, 907, 908, 909, 910, 911, 912, 913, 914, 915, 916, 917, 918, 919, 920, 921, 922, 923, 924, 925, 926, 927, 928, 929, 930, 931, 932, 933, 934, 935, 936, 937, 938, 939, 940, 941, 942, 943, 944, 945, 946, 947, 948, 949, 950, 951, 952, 953, 954, 955, 956, 957, 958, 959, 960, 961, 962, 963, 964, 965, 966, 967, 968, 969, 970, 971, 972, 973, 974, 975, 976, 977, 978, 979, 980, 981, 982, 983, 984, 985, 986, 987, 988, 989, 990, 991, 992, 993, 994, 995, 996, 997, 998, 999, 1000.

the thirties, and their recommendation that the correct ancient Greek usage should be revived, not least to eradicate the "dangerous myths" associated with the vague and unsatisfactory word "race". It would be particularly interesting to have Mr Howard's observations on the appropriate passages in the very significant study *We Europeans: A Survey of 'Racial Problems'* by Huxley, Tait and Carr-Saunders, first published in October, 1935, which deservedly ran through several impressions. This book certainly influenced the thought and language (including the "British English") of many at the time, but "race" has so strongly reassured itself that Huxley's strong and considered advocacy of ethnic, ethnics, ethnics, has been widely ignored in academic as well as popular usage. Yours truly, KENNETH KIRKWOOD, St Antony's College, Oxford, February 21.

upon the obvious explanation. The text is clearly corrupt. The poet first expresses a wish for a glass of chilled wine. But plots of beeches green can be on the cold side after dark—it is approaching midnight, as we know—even in mid-May. On second thoughts, therefore (I read "







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# THE TIMES BUSINESS NEWS

كندا من الأصل

Pressures on  
the East  
German  
economy, p 19

## Hattersley refusal to stop Babcock takeover after it in monopolies panel

Mr Hattersley's refusal to stop the Babcock takeover after it in monopolies panel... The members of the inquiry group... The Government's decision... The members of the inquiry group... The Government's decision... The members of the inquiry group... The Government's decision...

## Standard offers \$130m in bank deal

By Adrienne Gleason... Standard Chartered... The proposed deal... The acquisition of Bank of California... The proposed deal... The acquisition of Bank of California...

## Argentine ranches sold by Brooke Bond Liebig

Brooke Bond Liebig... Argentine ranches... The ranches... The ranches...



Lord Barber: "the potential is very good indeed"

## LME may ease rules of membership

By Wallace Jackson... LME... The London Metal Exchange... The London Metal Exchange...

## Racal counterbids for Ultra with 26 pc stake

By Our Financial Staff... Racal... Ultra... The Racal counterbid... The Racal counterbid...

## £13m rights issue by China Clays

English China Clays... £13m rights issue... The rights issue... The rights issue...

## Swedish plans to halve shipyards

Sweden... Shipyard... The shipyard... The shipyard...

## MP lobbied over Serck bid

Representatives of a fifth of the workforce of Serck... The Serck bid... The Serck bid...

## 24 oil groups take up N Sea allocations

By Roger Vielvoye... 24 oil groups... The oil groups... The oil groups...

## Chief attacks Carter budget proposals as fuel for inflation fears

From Frank Vogl... Washington, Feb 23... Dr Arthur Burns... The Carter budget proposals... The Carter budget proposals...

## More than £20m goes up in flames

The estimated cost of fire damage in Great Britain... The fire damage... The fire damage...

## the markets moved

Table with market movements including indices like FT 100, DAX, and various stock prices.

## Poorer nations' US debts up 23pc

Table showing US debts to poorer nations, including columns for country and debt amount.

DAEJAN HOLDINGS LIMITED  
INTERIM STATEMENT  
Unaudited Results for the Half Year Ended 30th September 1976  
Table with financial data including profits, losses, and dividends.



Mr Dell told of dumping threat to jobs in public and private sectors

## Urgent call by steel union for import duties

By Paul Routledge  
Labour Editor

The Iron and Steel Trades Confederation, the steel industry's biggest union, has called on the Government to impose duties on imports of steel products at the lower end of the market that are threatening jobs in private and public sector steelmaking.

In a letter to Mr Dell, Secretary of State for Trade, Mr Bill Sirs, general secretary of the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation criticizes the Government for "failing to act" while steel products are dumped in Britain by countries unconcerned about the impact of their trading policies. He has asked for the immediate imposition of duties to prevent further hardship to steel workers.

Mr Sirs told Mr Dell: "We are concerned about non-alloy sections and flats which together with reinforcing bars are the main raw material of the construction industry, and as we are both aware the construction industry is in the depths of a recession.

"The home market for sections and flats has declined from 863,000 tonnes in 1974 to 600,000 tonnes in 1976. At the same time imports—mainly through city merchants selling to stockholders—have risen from 24,000 tonnes in 1973 to 88,000 tonnes in 1976. Many of these imports are at dump prices and we understand that you are already in possession of fully documented anti-dumping cases against Spain, South Africa and Japan."

"You will be aware that 40 per cent of the United Kingdom production is by the British Steel Corporation, mainly

at the Jarrow works, and any short-time or redundancy in this area is adding to a burden which is the worst in the whole country. The remaining 60 per cent is produced by various British Independent Steel Producers Association works in the West Midlands, Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds in Cardiff and Martins (Dundee) in Scotland, Mr Sirs argues.

"Some of these works have no other product to make and therefore the loss of shifts to employees and the threat of redundancy in the next two or three months could be a fatal blow to many of the areas affected by such imports."

It was "absolute lunacy" for this country to be importing unemployment. The Irish Republic, Mr Sirs notes, imposed a £22 per tonne duty from February 4 on sections from Spain.

### French set out terms of loans for sector

M. Jean Philippe Lecat, French presidential spokesman, said yesterday that the French Government was willing to make loans to steel companies to finance investments but with several conditions, including a requirement to lodge shares as a guarantee (Reuter reports).

He said the companies would have to lodge shares in their portfolio with the Caisse des Dépôts et Consignations, through which the French authorities intervene in financial matters.

M. Lecat gave no details of the maximum amount of cash the state was

willing to make available to the steel sector.

He said the Cabinet decided the loans would be conditional on the steel groups putting up sizeable financing for investments themselves.

The state would have a clause in loan agreements through which it would participate in improved financial results.

The groups would also have to undertake to help create jobs in areas suffering from unemployment because of steel reorganization and the government would create an inter-ministerial economic and financial control body to ensure the groups respected their industrial, social and financial undertakings.

The Government planned to limit the number of redundancies likely to result from this programme and had asked employers and unions to reach an industry-wide social agreement before April 15.

### Newport to be centre of electrical steels

British Steel Corporation confirmed yesterday that it plans to close part of its Brierley Hill works in the west Midlands and to concentrate production of electrical steels at the Orb works, Newport, South Wales. A £73m modernisation scheme is planned for Newport, which will involve 190 more jobs between 1979 and 1983.

At the Cockle, Alphaville works at Brierley Hill, 640 out of the 1,100 total of jobs are likely to go. But the corporation says that the actual redundancies will be fewer because of normal

turnover, natural wastage and control of recruitment.

The corporation is the sole United Kingdom producer of electrical steel, which has magnetic properties suitable for use in electrical machines.

### Employers' levy to go up by 85 pc

An 85 per cent increase in the employers' levy to finance the grants scheme of the Iron and Steel Industry Training Board has been approved by Mr Albert Booth, Secretary of State for Employment. The levy will go up from £13.50 to £25 for each employee from April 1.

Employers who have fewer than 26 employees, or who meet the board's training requirements in full, are exempt from the levy. This latter condition applies to 98 per cent of the British Steel Corporation's plants.

### Blastfurnacemen in Llanwern talks today

Five hundred striking blastfurnacemen at British Steel Corporation's most modern plant at Llanwern, near Newport, South Wales, are to meet today to discuss demands for improved working conditions.

The walkout on Monday halted iron and steel production at the £300m complex. It was feared that thousands of layoffs could follow if there was no early settlement.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Towards a united organization for professional engineers

From Mr R. Freer

Sir, Your Business Diary's report (February 16) that the Government will be holding an inquiry into the organization of the engineering professions will be welcomed by many engineers but tinged with regret that the pressure has had to come from outside the profession. Mr Derek Harris has been telling us for two years of the unhappy gyrations in the engineering world which have led to this situation.

The general public is probably indifferent to the method engineers choose to organize themselves. It does not necessarily follow that new bridges, chemical works, aeroplanes or cars will be better, safer or cheaper if there is one engineering institution or a hundred.

But the engineers themselves are not indifferent. It has been clear to some of us for a long time that some united body must one day be created if only to ensure that the country's engineers can speak with one voice to the Government. In this

respect the rank and file appear to have been well ahead of the established orthodoxy.

The present multiplicity of engineering institutions is an historical accident. If we could put ourselves back to the 1820s when there was just one institution, we would be trying hard to prevent the fragmentation ever taking place. However, all that is in the past. Today a united engineering organization would have to be more in keeping with the requirements of today's engineers. It would need to be more than a learned society with the usual functions of examination, maintenance of standards and discipline.

The doctors seemed to have managed this better than we have. They have two parallel organizations, the GMC and the BMA, one an examining body and the other can act as a trade union, can speak to the Government on behalf of the profession and has achieved for its members comfortable (by engineering standards) salaries in addition to their transferable pension rights and index-adjusted pensions. We would appreciate

an organization which could do that for us.

The other contender has been admitted to the nation. At present the national path to becoming a chartered engineer university degree and a diploma in engineering. I need not be the only one to be practised as well as a student and a colleague. It should not be a different road or late in life. Good engineering is scarce enough and regrettably excludes the national will to improve its profession. The weakness of the entrance requirement is that, if they were alive, it is unlikely that Brasse, who was able to get into the Institution of Civil Engineers, would have been able to get into the Institution of Mechanical Engineers. R. FREER, 27 Campbell Drive, Bearsden, Glasgow G61.

### Edward Wood: case for scheme to be set aside

From Mr Desmond Lyons

Sir, One of the fundamental liberties of a free and democratic society is the right of reply, particularly on matters concerning the public interest. Happily *The Times* has long upheld this most basic of English traditions. You print today's *Times* (February 18), at some length, extracts from a Department of Trade inspectors' report re Edward Wood & Co. I hope therefore you will allow me, through the courtesy of your columns, to make at least one point of general public interest on behalf of my fellow shareholders.

Having exercised their powers under section 165(a) of the Companies Act 1948, January 1975, shareholders have to vote, presumably upon this report, dated 11 October 1976 for their remedies. Through the report shareholders are informed that the contractual scheme binding their interests contains material information which was "seriously misleading" and "factually wrong" in the context of the Scheme.

Yet the shareholders, while under the protection of the court and their voluntary liquidator approved the scheme, subsequently sanctioned by the High Court on April 8, 1974. Common law, statute, and the authorities appear clear: the scheme ought to be set aside in the interests of shareholders who were the parties to it.

Throughout 1973 my sole proposal to the voluntary liquidator, agreed by him following shareholders' approval, was to obtain a stay in the members' voluntary liquidation of Edward Wood. Notwithstanding, in September 1973 leading Chancery counsel revised his earlier written opinion by stating that the court would be unlikely to grant a stay where there were substantial acquisition agreements by the company in liquidation.

My investment banking company, as agents of the majority family shareholder considered this extra statutory imposition commercially unjustifiable, and eventually an arrangement that a man of business, acting in his own interest, would reasonably approve. Moreover the voluntary liquidator, then in sole charge of the company's affairs, and severely in possession of this principle of no acquisition upon the shareholders via their scheme.

It became as it were a condition precedent for the court to grant a stay in the liquidation. Accordingly the simple provision of section 256 of the Act, though approved by shareholders and initially favoured by counsel, had to be abandoned in favour of section 206. This section put shareholders under the protection of the court's control over meetings, advertisement and explanatory circular, but was misconceived in the circumstances.

The acquisition of Skibben Winton (SWC) was, I believe, an abuse of the shareholders' trust in the liquidator's interests were managed and put unnecessarily at risk by their scheme's contractual requirements.

The scheme contained provisions which seem to be repugnant to the general law of England, and which had I appreciated at the time I would have opposed rigidly—for example the share purchase provision only made on behalf of Mr F. B. Le Marquand under "duress" as the inspectors note.

On all these issues, vitally affecting the interests of shareholders, and involving the public interest, the inspectors are silent. In my view the condemnation of a single individual adviser, whether or not justified, among a host of lawyers, accountants, and valuers, can only be designed to avoid the central issue.

My contention is that the City and legal authorities lost sight of the interests of the shareholders of Edward Wood in their preoccupation with the secondary banking crisis.

In the interests of my fellow shareholders I shall continue to press for rescission of the scheme and the restoration of the company. In everyone's interest I believe this report should be subjected to further scrutiny.

Yours sincerely,  
DESMOND LYONS,  
Alexandra Chambers,  
32 John William Street,  
Huddersfield.

### Business decision-making

From Mr Jan Hildreth

Sir, Your correspondents from Associated Non-Executive Directors (February 22) accuse me of putting the directors' cause back 100 years. I am baffled! Perhaps they felt that the non-executive director was under attack? I thought I had made it plain that it is the board which has the executive function, not necessarily the individual director. I was not commenting on the respective roles of executive and non-executive directors.

My purpose was to point out the difference between political and business decision making. Politics involves reconciling differences of interest; political success can be measured in terms of support gained. Business aims to create tradable goods and services—material wealth—and success in this must be measured in terms of the value placed on these by the customers. While consensus is an appropriate means to political decision, it is irrelevant to business decision which is tested by results. The customer decides, not the company. It is no good telling the customer to eat cake if he wants bread, however much the board agree that it should be cake.

The Institute's view on the role of the board is that the board is the primary organ of the company and is responsible to the company; it is not the delegate of anyone, not even of the shareholders. Its main functions are to act as the corporate businessman, to lead the management team and to strike a balance between all with a proper interest in the company. We define these as the investors, employees, the creditors, the public and, finally, the

future of the company all have interests although more clearly defined others.

To be effective, the needs to be a well informed team, sensitive to its responsibilities, with the individual members being chosen for ability to contribute to the whole. In this team, it is usually a place for the non-executive director, ever, it will not be effective if it becomes either a choir of old pals remote from business or the company's political committee of the sort envisaged by Bullock. Yours faithfully, JAN HILDRETH, Director-General, Institute of Directors, 10 Belgrave Square, London SW1X 8PW, February 23.

### PO response Construction film awards

From Mr Erskine Pollock

Sir, Nearly twenty years wrote to the Post Office from the form SB3 reading: "PWC having been notified that amount has credited." It was teosely acknowledged and later informed that the amount would be amended. The form is SB3A. I hope Friedman's article (Feb 22) will be similarly treated. Yours faithfully, ERSKINE POLLOCK, 5 Eastfield Park, Weston-super-Mare, Avon BS23 2PE, February 22.

## In brief

### £9m pump plant will provide up to 800 jobs

A £9m pump factory which eventually will employ between 600 and 800 people is to be built near Sunderland, Tyne & Wear, by Grundfos Manufacturing, part of the Danish Grundfos pump group.

Mr Peter Hooper, managing director of the British company, said yesterday that construction of the £9m first phase would begin later this year, and would be completed early in 1979. The overall project would take 10 years to complete.

He said that at present the company manufactured domestic central heating circulator pumps at a factory at Washington, Tyne & Wear.

### German upsurge in car production

West German motor vehicle production in January rose to 339,300 units from 300,394 in December and 305,932 in January 1976. Car production rose to 330,500 from 273,960 in December and 281,545 a year ago. Commercial vehicle output rose to 28,800 from 26,434 and 24,387.

### Supertankers cleared of high accident rate

Supertankers do not have more accidents than smaller vessels, says the first report of the Tanker Safety Group published yesterday. Mr Clinton Davis, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Companies, Aviation and Shipping at the Department of Trade, said he had decided to publish the report now because anxiety about the safety of tankers had

been renewed by five well-publicized accidents to tankers in the past three months in, or near, United States waters.

The group, an official committee representing the oil and shipping industries and the seven men's unions, and chaired by the Department of Trade, reviewed serious tanker accidents between 1968 and 1975 and concluded there was no evidence to suggest that the casualty rate increased with the size of ship.

### Brokers Bill passes committee stage

The committee stage of the Insurance Brokers (Registration) Bill was completed yesterday. The Bill is designed to protect the public by establishing a system of registration of insurance brokers and the regulation of their professional standards. Unregistered brokers will be barred from describing themselves as insurance brokers and as assurance brokers, reinsurance brokers, and reinsurance brokers.

The proposed offence carries a maximum fine of £400.

### Alvis wins £8.5m order from Canada

Alvis, the Leyland special products division company, has won a £8.5m order to supply gun turrets for a new range of armoured cars for the Canadian armed forces. The contract is for 132 Scorpion 76mm gun turrets for the new six-wheeled amphibious "Cougar". They will be built under licence at the General Motors plant at London, Ontario.

## More Leyland workers laid off

By R. W. Shakespeare

The number of workers laid off in British Leyland car plants throughout the country rose to nearly 19,000 yesterday, as more workers were sent home as a result of the state-owned car group's troubles among toolmakers.

The lay-offs of another 3,700 workers brought Allegro car production to a standstill at Leyland's big Longbridge complex at Birmingham, and the strike, by some 3,000 toolmakers in 11 different centres, is expected progressively to

shut down all Leyland's car manufacturing and ancillary operations over the next few days. It could finally make more than 30,000 workers idle.

Last night, an immediate response was apparent from shop stewards who are leading the unofficial strike to the instruction from the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers national executive that the stoppage should be called off.

The stewards, a breakaway group, have called a strike among Leyland's 6,000 tool-

makers to support demands for separate negotiating rights and restoration of skilled differentials which their claim have been eroded by successive government pay policies.

The toolmakers' dispute comes on top of other disturbances in Leyland plants which include a crippled production. At Coventry, the Triumph complex is still closed by a strike of 350 paint shop workers, and at Cowley, Oxford, Marina car assembly is halted by a walk out of maintenance engineers.

### Thos Cook back in profit with £2.5m pre-tax

By Patricia Tisdall

The Thomas Cook travel and banking group, which is controlled by the Midland Bank, has returned to profitability after pre-tax losses of £2.73m in 1975. Mr Tom Fisher, the chief executive, said yesterday that pre-tax profits for 1976 totalled £2.5m and, despite a depressed travel market in Britain, gross profits for this year are expected to be even higher.

The figures take account of the high expense of exchange translation to sterling, which last year cost Thomas Cook some £1.8m compared with £0.5m in 1975. This is a big factor in taking down the trading profit figures of £4.3m to the net pre-tax level.

Another heavy cost last year, and much higher than foreseen, was incurred with the relocation of the group's headquarters from London to Perthshire. Thomas Cook has also bought back the 25 per cent stake in its overseas travel interests held by the Belgian Wagons-Lits organization.

### Management terms hold up Saudi takeover of Aramco

By Patricia Tisdall

In Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, Feb 23—Numerous points still must be settled before Saudi Arabia can complete the long-pending takeover of Arabian American Oil (Aramco), Mr Frank Jungers, Aramco chairman, said today.

Management fees, which would go to Aramco's shareholders after the Saudi nationalization, were among the points that still must be negotiated. Mr Jungers said in an interview.

The four shareholders are Standard Oil of California, Exxon, Texaco, and Mobil. Since 1974, Aramco's production facilities and fields have been 60 per cent owned by the Saudi Government. Saudi Arabia is negotiating to take over the whole company, including all production operations and the 600,000 barrel-a-day refinery at Ras Tanura.

The oil companies now own the oil in the refinery. "The refinery will be a part of the Aramco operation after the Government takeover", Mr Jungers said.

In Riyadh, Shaikh Yamani, Saudi Arabia's Oil Minister, reaffirmed the Government's intention of making conditions attractive enough for Aramco equity-holders to remain in the country. Details of the management contract this involves must be negotiated. This would have already been continuing to manage Aramco.

The management fee has been estimated at around 15 cents to 21 cents a barrel of production, with the figure varying according to whether it applies to all output or just to that taken by the companies. "Those are all speculative guesses", Mr Jungers said. Tapline, a crude oil pipeline from Saudi Arabia to the Lebanese Mediterranean coast, seems to be the unwanted stepchild in the takeover. The line has a capacity of 500,000 barrels a day, but only a trickle of petroleum has been pumped through it in recent years.

Negotiations involving Aramco have dragged along for years, largely because of the complexities of the takeover.

### SE chairman critical of Bullock report

Mr Nicholas Goodison, chairman of the Stock Exchange, said yesterday that the Bullock report's proposals to impose an impractical legal framework on a system which is not ready for it.

"They reject the many sensible schemes of participation which British companies have evolved organically over many years, and then promote academic theory and try to give it the dangerous status of law, using catchwords in an attempt to lull us into a sense of security."

"They run the risk of killing the horse—commerce and industry—which is trying so hard to provide the motive power for our country's social objectives."

### Construction films awards

By Eynon Smart

At the Shell Centre Theatre yesterday Mr Ronald Sharp, the chairman of the British Industrial and Scientific Film Association, presented the four category awards in the 1976-77 construction films competition.

The winner of the trophy presented by the Institution of Civil Engineers was "The Mates Project" from Tarmac Ltd. The RIBA Trophy for Architecture and the design of the physical environment went to Europa Nostra for their film of the same name. Pilkington Brothers Ltd took the Building materials category with "Versatility in Glass", and Eyes out from the National Federation of Building Trades Employers and the Construction Industry Training Board shared the Cement and Concrete Association Trophy in the training and safety category.

## NOTICE OF ISSUE

Application has been made to the Council of The Stock Exchange for the undermentioned Stock to be admitted to the Official List.

## ABRIDGED PARTICULARS

### Lee Valley Water Company

(Incorporated in England on the 29th July, 1959, by the Lee Valley Water Act, 1959.)

### OFFER FOR SALE BY TENDER OF £2,000,000

### 9 per cent. Redeemable Preference Stock, 1982

(which will mature for redemption at par on 31st March, 1982)

### Minimum Price of Issue £99 per £100 Stock

yielding at that price, together with the associated tax credit at the current rate, £13.99 per cent.

This Stock is an investment authorised by Section 1 of the Trustee Investments Act, 1961, and by paragraph 10 of Part II of the First Schedule thereto. Under that paragraph, the required rate of dividend on the Ordinary Capital of the Company was 4 per cent. but, by the Trustee Investments (Water Companies) Order, 1973, such rate was reduced to 2.5 per cent. in relation to dividends paid during any year after 1972.

The Stock will be entitled to a dividend of 9 per cent. per annum without deduction of tax. Under the Imputation tax system, the associated tax credit at the rate of 35/66ths of the distribution, is equal to a rate of 4 11/13ths per cent. per annum.

Tenders for the Stock must be made on the Form of Tender supplied with the Prospectus and must be accompanied by a deposit of £10 per £100 nominal amount of Stock applied for and sent in a sealed envelope to Barclays Bank (London and International) Limited, New Issues Department, P.O. Box 123, 2, London Wall Buildings, London Wall, London, EC2P 2BU marked "Tender for Lee Valley Water Company Stock", so as to be received not later than 11 a.m. on Wednesday, 2nd March, 1977. The balance of the purchase money is to be paid on or before Friday, 25th March, 1977.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

The Company now supplies water in an area of approximately 860 square miles in parts of the counties of Bedfordshire, Essex and Hertfordshire and parts of the London boroughs of Barnet, Enfield and Haringey. The population supplied is estimated at 1,009,000.

The proceeds of this issue will be used to provide new mains, service reservoirs, pumping stations and other works which are required to meet the demands of existing and new consumers and to replace and provide funds required for the redemption of certain Debentures and Stocks. Further capital will be required in due course for the Company's continuing programme of development.

Copies of the Prospectus, on the terms of which alone Tenders will be considered, and Forms of Tender may be obtained from:—

Seymour, Pierce & Co.,  
10, Old Jewry, London EC2R 8EA.

Barclays Bank (London and International) Limited,  
New Issues Department,  
P.O. Box 123, 2, London Wall Buildings, London Wall, London, EC2P 2BU.

Barclays Bank Limited,  
86 Town Centre, Hatfield, Herts, AL10 0JP.

or from the Offices of the Company at Bishops Rise, Hatfield, Herts, AL10 9HL.

## BOC

### BOC International Ltd

### Interim report for the three months ended 31 December 1976

### Group profits, unaudited:

	Three months to 31.12.76	Three months to 31.12.75	Year to 31.12.76
Group Sales	£'000	£'000	£'000
Operating costs	159,221	129,892	607,602
	134,360	110,195	507,663
Depreciation	24,871	19,697	99,838
	8,592	6,124	30,089
	16,279	13,573	69,854
Add: Group share of associated companies' profits less losses	5,337	4,065	22,285
Group trading profit	21,616	17,638	92,139
Europe	7,513	6,014	33,148
Africa	3,530	2,949	13,664
Americas	4,649	4,130	22,643
Asia	1,200	796	4,709
Pacific	4,724	3,749	17,975
	21,616	17,638	92,139
Interest	5,006	4,860	18,486
Group profit before tax	16,610	12,778	73,653
Tax	8,272	6,338	40,343
	8,338	6,440	33,300
Minorities	1,773	1,306	6,266
Group profit attributable to parent company	6,565	5,134	27,034

Earnings per share (based on 256,614,000 ordinary fully paid shares of 25p in issue at 31 December, 1976) 2.55p 1.99p 10.50p

- All regions showed improved profits over the December quarter of 1975 before conversion to sterling, although the Americas were adversely affected by the difficult trading conditions experienced in Canada.
- The results of the three months to 31 December 1976 included extra depreciation of £928,000 provided in anticipation of further asset revaluations to be carried out by the end of the current financial year.
- Starting has strengthened against other major currencies during the quarter but the effect on Group trading profit was not material.

Further copies of this report may be obtained from the Secretary, BOC International Ltd., Hammermith House, London, W3 9DX. Tel: 01-748 2020.

حکومت الامارات



BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

## American ambitions at Standard Chartered

Chartered's \$130m bid assets of BanCal Tri-  
partite took the mar-  
ket by surprise yesterday, and  
idid. Here we have an  
idid, far-flung British  
h a good profits record  
idid, far-flung British  
h a good profits record  
idid, far-flung British  
h a good profits record

benefits for AE, but little for  
itself.  
Being closer to the capital  
goods cycle than AE, Serck has  
most of the benefits of its  
recent reorganization to come.  
A new management that has  
bought a company making in-  
dustrial valves and heat ex-  
changers through the recession  
with increasing profits has a  
strong argument for remaining  
independent.

### FMC

#### Behind the bid talk

FMC jumped another 9p to 84p  
yesterday amid a further flurry  
of rumours of an imminent bid  
from fellow traders Thomas  
Borthwick with other candi-  
dates such as J. Bibby still  
being mentioned as long-shots.  
Yet in the cold light of  
reality the arguments militating  
against a bid are much more  
important than those for one. Most  
important is the fact that the  
NPU is sitting tight on its 42.5  
per cent stake which, consider-  
ing the lengths it went to  
to secure this and the fact that  
it wants to retain this more as  
a marketing strategy than for  
its purely investment merits. So  
without the NPU's agreement  
the chances of any potential  
bidder getting its claws on FMC  
are pretty remote.

Borthwick, too, could run slap  
into monopolies problems if it  
were to bid, since the combined  
group would then have  
approaching half the domestic  
meat business, though in the  
past that has not always proved  
the ultimate deterrent.

So what lies behind all the  
rumour for a group that is  
admittedly recovering well  
from past traumas but is still  
a long way from being a glitter-  
ing prize despite asset backing  
of perhaps a half more than  
the current share price.

The answer, I fear, is likely  
to be a good deal more prosaic  
than the market is anticipating  
and appears to revolve around  
further FMC buying by the  
NPU which in the narrow mar-  
ket for FMC has had a dis-  
proportionate effect on the  
price and has led to all sorts  
of speculation.

Over the last few months the  
NPU has picked up a further  
2 per cent of the FMC equity  
which suggests that a la  
Guinness in its original strategy  
for White, Child & Beney it may  
simply be buying the time until  
it gets control. Even if the NPU  
decides to return to the fray  
with its representatives now in  
the driving seat at FMC the  
timing and terms are likely to  
be at its choosing which points  
to some charred fingers soon.

### China Clays

#### Coming out of its shell

Yesterday's £13.4m equity fund-  
ing by English China Clays is  
the first sizable rights issue  
since Chloride's last December.  
Although Barclays may or may  
not confuse the matter today,  
the rights market is likely to  
remain fairly quiet.

For one thing Schroder Wagg  
apparently had little trouble  
slotting EEC in but more fun-  
damentally most companies who  
could reasonably be expected to  
have rebuilt their equity  
bases have done so already and  
judging by the recent bank-  
lending figures corporate bor-  
rowing is at a low ebb.

For EEC the rights issue  
along with a seemingly more  
venturesome approach to ac-  
quisitions, evidenced by news of  
a couple of small takeovers  
yesterday, suggests that it may  
be starting to come out of its  
shell. That is all some way in  
the future and the market,

short of ECC stock, was more  
impressed with the 43p per cent  
dividend increase to 5.4p a  
share gross where the ex-rights  
yield is a more respectable 6.6  
per cent.

Despite being finely pitched  
—at 62p it is a discount of only  
a sixth on the overnight price—  
there was little trouble in un-  
derwriting the issue. Mean-  
while, with ECC's low gearing  
there is clearly no pressing  
balance sheet need for more  
cash though the debt to equity  
ratio has risen perceptibly over  
the last five years and the small  
surplus on bank borrowings has  
now turned into a small net  
deficit and working capital re-  
quirements, up £6m net last  
year, will rise in line with turn-  
over.

ECC is also budgeting for  
fairly large increase in capital  
spending with authorizations up  
from £11m to £18.2m last  
September, most of which is  
 earmarked for clay expansion  
at home and overseas. For the  
present, however, it is taking  
advantage of the depressed over-  
look for quarries by a cosy  
agreed £41m bid for Boddy  
Industries, a Sheffield-based  
private group with quarry,  
waste disposal and fuel distri-  
bution interests with profits of  
almost £1m last year.

Though quarrying and build-  
ing is likely to remain in the  
dumps for the next couple of  
years continued growth in clay  
demand on the back of the  
recovery in the paper cycle  
should take ECC's profits to  
£30m this year where the  
prospective p/e ratio of 8 is  
not expensive for a company  
of this quality.

### Price controls

#### Dividends as well?

The stock market seems unwill-  
ing to abandon its hope that  
there will be changes, or even  
the abandonment of dividend  
controls before the year is out.  
And this hope made it particu-  
larly receptive yesterday to ten-  
ative comments on the subject  
by stockbrokers Phillips &  
Drew.

They feel that they may have  
spurred an exercise in Treasury  
kite flying woven into the other-  
wise uninspiring fabric of the  
Price Commission's consultative  
document on the new prices  
policy from July.

Taken as face value the docu-  
ment's talk of "all prices and  
all enterprises" coming within  
the scope of the new policy, with  
a little imagination, be  
taken to encompass dividends as  
well as insurance premiums and  
rents.

There is an appealing and  
persuasive case to be made for  
incorporating dividend regula-  
tion into a general pricing  
policy, making dividends subject  
to investigation rather than  
formal controls. Such a move  
would accord with the Treas-  
ury's known lack of enthusiasm  
for the present system and with  
the Government's move towards  
a gradual relaxation of the pay  
and prices policy generally.

Such a system would also over-  
come the type of sophisticated  
distribution schemes which have  
so irritated the unions at GEC.  
However, if dividend controls  
were to be drawn into a  
general pricing package in this  
form they would lose much of  
their value as a political bar-  
gaining counter in the pay code  
negotiations.

As a clearly defined restric-  
tion on shareholders' income  
they have an appeal. Govern-  
ment-union bargaining quite out  
of proportion to their actual  
impact since the unions still  
appear unwilling to accept pub-  
licity that the controls do not  
have the simple effect of  
squeezing the rich. Until they  
do, it is hard to see how the  
Treasury's kite can come to  
rest.

## East Germany: political pressures add to the economic stress

According to East German  
figures recently released on  
the fulfilment of the 1976 plan,  
the 1975 promise of Herr Horst  
Sindermann, chairman of the  
Council of State, that 1976  
would see stable and con-  
sistent economic development  
in East Germany seem to have  
been only partially fulfilled.

The official overall indicator of  
economic growth, the national  
income, fell 0.5 per cent in  
1976 against a planned in-  
crease of 3.7 per cent. This  
represents the lowest yearly  
growth since 1963.

The main reason officially  
given for the low national in-  
come growth is the disas-  
trous harvest. This would seem  
to be borne out by the figures  
published: East Germany like  
the rest of Europe suffered  
badly from last summer's  
drought. Consequently there  
was a decline in yield of 9.8  
per cent from the previous  
year's output, whereas an in-  
crease of 1.4 per cent had been  
expected.

Grain output fell by one mil-  
lion tons to eight million  
and it is expected that East  
Germany, already a grain im-  
porter, will need to import  
from the Soviet Union which  
had a record harvest in 1976.

Root crops were also badly  
affected and production was  
almost a third down compared  
with 1975. The authorities  
praised the efforts and indus-  
try of farmers in maintaining  
livestock levels by finding  
alternative supplies of food,  
such as pelleted straw.

The industrial results were  
more encouraging. The main  
indicator of industrial growth,  
the industrial production in-  
dex, rose 5.9 per cent over  
1975, only 0.1 per cent  
down on the planned in-  
crease. The centrally planned  
industries regarded as the key  
to East Germany's economic  
development and consisting of  
the main sectors of manu-  
facturing industry, followed the  
same pattern, having an in-  
crease of 6.6 per cent where the  
planned increase was 6.7 per  
cent.

It must be borne in mind

that the East German planners'  
estimates for growth in 1976  
were considerably higher than  
their expectation of a slowing  
down of the overall growth  
rate in the mid 1970's and that  
the industrial growth figures  
published are all short of  
estimated targets.

However, in the report on the  
results of the 1976 plan,  
references to difficulties in  
forecasting and in the need to  
reinforce the view of western com-  
mentators that the East Ger-  
man economy is "struggling  
against more wide ranging  
economic difficulties and that  
the agricultural harvest is not  
entirely to blame for last  
year's low national income  
growth rate".

Since 1973, the East Ger-  
mans have been hit by a suc-  
cession of price increases for  
raw material imports from the  
Soviet Union, its most impor-  
tant trading partner, with  
which it conducts over a third  
of its trade, exchanging mainly  
finished and semi-finished  
industrial products for raw  
materials and petroleum on  
which the East German econ-  
omy depends.

Last year the Soviet Union  
increased its raw material  
prices by 43 per cent. As a  
result East Germany's terms of  
trade have deteriorated. Simi-  
larly, East Germany was in-  
directly hit by the effects of  
inflation in the West and by  
the world recession, in that it  
was at the receiving end of  
increasing prices for imports  
and stiffer terms of credit.

Its deficit with the West  
stands at about \$5,000m. In  
this context, the increase of 14  
per cent in foreign trade for  
1976, compared with the  
planned increase of 9.7 per  
cent, must be seen as East Ger-  
many's attempt to overcome its  
worsening terms of trade  
through increased exports,  
mainly to the Soviet Union, and  
to some extent the East Ger-  
man authorities have been tak-  
ing measures to try to coun-  
teract these problems. Last  
May, Herr Sindermann  
launched a five-year economy  
plan aimed at increasing the ef-  
ficiency of produc-

## Everybody has won - all must have prizes

Important books are rare. They  
are all the more welcome when  
they appear, and one need  
have no hesitation in ranking  
as an instant classic Fred  
Hirsch's new analysis\* of the  
inherent defects of the market  
economy as an instrument of  
human amelioration.

It is not an easy book; but  
this is because Professor Hirsch  
prefers to write at a fairly high  
level of schematic abstraction.  
But even now on no one who  
wishes to enter the lists seri-  
ously on behalf of either con-  
sumer sovereignty in the mar-  
ket or collective intention in  
markets should be able to do so  
without taking Professor  
Hirsch's thesis into ac-  
count. For, he has proposed  
an extremely ambitious theo-  
retical framework within which  
he attempts to reconcile the  
intuitive insights of modern  
socialists like C. A. R. Crosland  
and J. K. Galbraith with the  
powerful analytical apparatus  
wielded by neo-classical econo-  
mists.

Specifically, he argues that  
the manifest failure of even  
those liberal economies which  
have achieved steady and rapid  
economic growth to achieve a  
matching gain in the sum of  
individual satisfactions arises  
for particular reasons of mar-  
ket failure. It is not just be-  
cause of some vague divergence  
of material and spiritual values  
or because of any potent con-  
spiracy against the social good  
by vested interests.

Crucially oversimplified the  
market failure in question is  
caused by "social scarcity".  
Social scarcity is a general de-  
scription of such facts as that  
only one man can be President  
of the United States, or that  
there is only a limited number  
of people who can have cottages on  
the Welsh mountains situated so  
that no other cottages near their  
views and that if everyone  
keeps up with the Joneses, the  
Joneses cannot also keep ahead.

As conventional economic  
growth proceeds, the relative  
importance to consumers of  
these "goods", of which the  
supply is fixed or very slowly  
increasing, progressively rises in  
relation to material goods which  
can be mass-produced. This  
causes their relative price to  
rise and rise, and so increases  
the real disposable income re-  
quired to command a given  
amount of them.

Thus—and this is one of  
Professor Hirsch's most impor-  
tant propositions—people have  
had to run harder and harder  
to achieve a relative, or "posi-  
tional", advantage in order  
to be able to command the same  
absolute satisfaction. The golden  
beach to oneself and one's  
family which could be had 30  
years ago for the cost of a train  
ride to Cornwall has subse-  
quently had to be sought far-  
ther and farther afield—on the  
French Riviera, then on the  
Costa Brava, then in the Balearic  
Islands, then in Morocco and  
Tunisia, then in Sierra Leone  
and Botswana.

This, according to Professor  
Hirsch, explains what many  
social philosophers, like Cal-  
braith, and economists like  
James Duesenberry and Richard  
Easton have noticed but  
never explained, namely the  
discrepancy between private  
affluence and public squalor  
and the great importance  
attached by people to relative  
income.

The problem is not just the  
insensitivity and advertising  
power of huge corporations or  
the preoccupation of people  
with their relative status. Even  
in a world of wholly unenvi-  
ous consumers, exclusively con-  
cerned with their own absolute  
satisfactions, and of wholly  
responsive corporations, dan-  
gering instantly to the tune of con-  
sumer sovereignty in the market  
place, these distortions would  
still arise, for an important  
part of people's absolute satis-

factions depends on socially  
scarce "goods" which can be  
had only by outbidding others  
whose incomes are also rising.  
In the increasingly hectic  
struggle to satisfy such  
demands—the "commercializa-  
tion" of previously free public  
goods—the supply of what is  
socially scarce is actually re-  
duced because of market pres-  
sures. Caravans and jerry-built  
bungalows disfigure the un-  
improved view which could  
previously be had for the price  
of a farm cottage.

On these foundations, Pro-  
fessor Hirsch seeks to build the  
first technically respectable  
rehabilitation of collectivist  
economic and social philosophy  
for 20 years. But his specific  
policy conclusions are extremely  
cautious and tentative.

Essentially, his view is that  
things will come right only  
when people as consumers come  
spontaneously to attach less  
importance to individual satis-  
factions and to pay more regard  
to the social fall-out (the  
"externalities" as economists  
call them) of the pursuit of

Peter Jay

Economics Editor

private "positional" advantage.  
Professor Hirsch, however, is  
absolutely opposed to any form  
of brainwashing to accomplish  
this change. He is also acutely  
conscious of the heavy costs—in  
inefficiency, abuse and  
corruption—of relying on  
governments to correct the  
failures of the individually  
oriented market to satisfy  
individuals' goals.

He imagines an inversion of  
the role of Adam Smith's  
"invisible hand" whereby the  
pursuit of private advantage  
was supposed to lead to the  
general good. Instead, the im-  
dividual pursuit of the social good  
would lead to greater private  
satisfaction.

But he is only able to suggest  
rather modest steps—such as  
"lowering the stakes" in the  
struggle for positional advan-  
tage—towards this goal.

On the face of it—and so  
brief a summary does little  
justice to the subtlety of Pro-  
fessor Hirsch's argument—the  
thesis appears to have much  
more application to the United  
States, West Germany and  
Japan than to Britain. Indeed,  
he himself implies that Britain  
disciplined to embark on this  
distorted race may be a  
cause of its failure to achieve  
more rapid conventional econo-  
mic growth.

Argument on Professor  
Hirsch's thesis is likely first  
to concentrate on the lack of  
any quantitative dimension  
in his exposition. It really is  
important to know whether the  
problem is anything like as  
deep and pervasive as he  
suggests or whether it is just  
an expression of the irritation  
of the elite at having the  
vulgar showing their faces in  
previously secluded spots.

Secondly, there must be a  
real doubt whether it is right to  
analyse as a "market failure"  
the fact of life that land, power,  
privacy and many other  
"goods" are in very inelastic  
supply, while the world's popu-  
lation and its expectations are  
exploding. The life of a Poly-  
nesian chief in Hawaii may well  
once have been richer than the  
life now in Manhattan of a  
senior vice-president in a bank;  
but then there was only a  
thousandth, perhaps a  
hundredth, of the number of  
people.

\*Social Limits to Growth, by  
Fred Hirsch, Routledge and  
Kegan Paul, £5.50.

## Spending \$142,000m is not so easy

Bob Crew discusses  
Saudi Arabia's  
five-year  
development plan

According to Dr Farouk Akh-  
dar, adviser to the Saudi  
Arabian planning minister,  
Ahmed Nazem, the essence  
of the country's five-year de-  
velopment plan "has been misun-  
derstood inside and outside the  
kingdom".

"One hears, for example, that  
stress is on industrialization  
and diversification, to move away  
from exclusive dependence on  
oil. These are important points,  
but only 12 per cent of the  
plan is allocated to industrializa-  
tion", said Dr Akhedar, who  
is a graduate in economics of the  
University of California.

However, 12 per cent of  
\$142,000m is a lot of money to  
allocate to the industrialization  
of a nation of not more than  
six million people and Saudi  
Arabia is indeed reported to be  
spending more than it earns,  
with the gap filled in by the  
oil reserves, estimated to be  
in excess of \$21,000m and  
second only in the world to  
West Germany's.

There is no doubt that, despite  
rather obvious impediments  
to its five-year plan, such as  
a serious shortage of  
skilled (foreign) labour, port  
congestion, bottlenecks in the  
economy, lack of infrastructure  
and services, Saudi Arabia is  
still spending as much as its  
economy can absorb.

There is evidence, also, of  
additional spending by the  
Government. The Saudi  
Arabian Monetary Agency  
(SAMA) reported this month that  
bank lending to the industrial,  
manufacturing and processing

review for the period under  
survey, according to SAMA,  
62.6 per cent and currency out-  
side the banks is estimated to  
have risen by some 50 per cent  
to \$1,440m.

There are only 12 commer-  
cial banks in the kingdom with  
a combination of 79 branches  
between them. SAMA says that  
in order to be able to command  
the same absolute satisfaction.  
The golden beach to oneself and  
one's family which could be had  
30 years ago for the cost of a  
train ride to Cornwall has subse-  
quently had to be sought far-  
ther and farther afield—on the  
French Riviera, then on the  
Costa Brava, then in the Balearic  
Islands, then in Morocco and  
Tunisia, then in Sierra Leone  
and Botswana.

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social philosophers, like Cal-  
braith, and economists like  
James Duesenberry and Richard  
Easton have noticed but  
never explained, namely the  
discrepancy between private  
affluence and public squalor  
and the great importance  
attached by people to relative  
income.

The problem is not just the  
insensitivity and advertising  
power of huge corporations or  
the preoccupation of people  
with their relative status. Even  
in a world of wholly unenvi-  
ous consumers, exclusively con-  
cerned with their own absolute  
satisfactions, and of wholly  
responsive corporations, dan-  
gering instantly to the tune of con-  
sumer sovereignty in the market  
place, these distortions would  
still arise, for an important  
part of people's absolute satis-

With the five-year plan now  
in its third year and much  
more work remaining to be  
done it looks as though the  
feverish spending spree in the  
desert has by no means burnt  
itself out yet.

Few informed observers,  
however, expect the Saudis to  
spend anywhere near as much  
as the magic figure \$142,000m  
which has been the focus of  
the more mathematically minded  
reckon it is impossible for the  
kingdom to spend by a factor  
of two or three. There is no  
doubt, though, that a very high  
and unrestrained level of  
spending can be expected to  
continue at least until the end  
of the plan.

A grand total of \$1,480m of  
credit has provided the life  
blood for the key sectors of  
the kingdom's development  
plan. At the same time, there  
has been a dramatic increase  
in bank savings and deposits  
in deposits of 68.5 per cent  
indicates a greater public con-  
fidence and trust in placing  
funds with the banks.

The growth of the money

## Business Diary: Roberts the milk? • Acolas accolade

ment of Sir Richard  
as chairman of the  
lk marketing board in  
y will change the face  
of dairy politics. Sir  
be fourth and longest-  
sman in the board's  
told fellow board  
yesterday that he  
t accept nomination  
which year in office.  
lk Marketing Board  
and Wales is a  
y farmers' cooperative  
ty powers to buy all  
sell it for use in  
teas and other pro-  
duct bottles.

Three previous changes  
an the vice-chairman  
s succeeded. The cus-  
pected to continue  
Richard retires on his  
day in July. The board  
posed Stephen Roberts  
at vice-chairman who  
year-old Salop dairy  
the board was estab-  
1933. Sir Richard was  
search into artificial  
ion at Cambridge Uni-  
Three years later he  
management of one  
idest pedigree British  
herds from his father,  
owns the herd and  
s many weekends as  
in the family farm in

the United Kingdom's other  
marketing boards covering wool  
and potatoes and milk it is  
fighting for its life. Powerful  
voices in the EEC Commission  
say that the existence of boards  
with monopoly powers to con-  
trol markets, production and  
imports is incompatible with the  
principles of the common  
market unless, of course, the  
monopoly is EEC-oriented.

Sir Richard's board is leading  
the battle for the others. Pro-  
pects for the long struggle are  
good, for preservation of the  
functions of the board is one  
of the few issues in farming  
politics on which the British  
government and unions repre-  
senting farmers and farm-  
workers agree.

### The Fleet's in

Pierre Acolas, who is in Lon-  
don today, is the man who will  
take over next month from

the board was estab-  
1933. Sir Richard was  
search into artificial  
ion at Cambridge Uni-  
Three years later he  
management of one  
idest pedigree British  
herds from his father,  
owns the herd and  
s many weekends as  
in the family farm in

Rudolphe Lambert as manag-  
ing director of Renault's  
British subsidiary.

Acolas is manager of Regie  
Renault's projects and diversifi-  
cation department, for  
besides cars the company  
makes machine tools, bicycles  
and even boats. He will be  
responsible for diversification  
of a sort during his spell here,  
but only in matters to do with  
cars.

Renault is moving into the  
British fleet/leasing market,  
which car importers have left  
largely to British or American  
companies either manufacturing  
or assembling in this  
country.

Secondly, Renault is now  
active in car hire purchase and  
insurance through Renault  
Loan, in cooperation with  
North West Securities.

In his four and a half years  
in Britain Acolas's predecessor  
replaced the two-tier distribu-  
tor and dealer system with a  
single-tier dealer network and  
broke up the subsidiary into  
three largely autonomous  
regions.

Lambert leaves with Datsun  
pushing past Renault as the  
importer claiming the highest  
unit sale in Britain, although  
the French say that an average  
taken over Lambert's stay  
would still show Renault  
ahead.

His reward is to return to  
Paris and responsibility for the  
United States, Canadian and  
Mexican subsidiaries.

Acolas, on the other hand,  
is being given an early oppor-  
tunity to make a good impres-  
sion does he take over than  
the company launches a new  
model—the 1,200 cc, five-door  
Renault 14.

With 34,951 people out of work  
on Tyneside—8.3 per cent of  
the working population (na-  
tional average 6 per cent)—it is  
perhaps hardly surprising that  
1,200 people applied for 180  
jobs as sales assistants and  
office workers at a new Market  
Street, Newcastle, department  
store. The Market Street Ser-  
vices Commission said that such  
was the demand that a team of six  
personal officers from Bins, the  
store concerned, were  
date over 10 days. Last year  
more than 1,000 people applied  
for 150 places advertised by the  
Automobile Association in the  
city.

### High jinks

The Guild of Air Pilots and Air  
Navigators have long regretted  
that they own no livery hall of  
their own in the City of Lon-  
don, and are therefore unable  
to return the hospitality which  
their officers and members en-  
joy in the halls of the other  
City guilds.

Today, however, they make  
amends in an appropriate man-  
ner by their throw a party in  
a flying room at the DC10  
airliner belonging to guild  
member Freddie Laker.

With characteristic Laker  
publicity flair, the aircraft is  
already painted with an adver-  
tisement for Skytrain, the  
cheap-fare transatlantic service  
which he gained permission  
to operate recently. Among the  
guests are the masters (and  
ladies) of the gunmakers and  
weavers, the coachmakers and  
the coopers.

The 350-seater sets course  
this morning from Gatwick for  
Amsterdam, where there will be  
a formal lunch and visits to the  
harbour and the diamond  
centre.

### Arthuriana

Whether Sir Arthur Cockfield,  
who steps down as chairman of  
the Price Commission when his  
present term ends on July 31st,  
Sir Arthur is 50 and not a  
day of man to portend about in  
retirement, not yet at any rate,  
if ever.

More than six months ago he  
told the then Secretary of State  
for Prices and Consumer Pro-  
tection, Mrs Shirley Williams,  
that he would do another year  
but it would be his last. A  
clear-headed if reticent man, he  
presumably has some idea by  
now of what he will be doing.  
He could have said so this week,  
when Mrs Williams's successor,  
Roy Hattersley, announced his  
proposals for the tougher, post-  
July commission, but Sir Arthur  
may prefer to wait until after  
Easter, when Hattersley can  
announce a successor.

By that time the consultation  
period on the proposals will be  
over, the White Paper estab-  
lishing the new commission will  
have been before the House and  
candidates for the chairman-  
ship will know what they are  
letting themselves in for.

In the meantime there is  
speculation that after a specu-  
larily diverse career—barrister,  
taxman, chairman of Boots and  
laterally a devil figure to big  
business—he will now make  
another surprise switch. Per-  
haps to advising a big firm or  
industry association on how to  
live with price control.

## Gillett Brothers Discount Company Limited

### Preliminary Results

The directors of Gillett Brothers Discount Co. Ltd.  
announce the results (subject to audit) for the year ended 31st  
January, 1977.

	1977	1976
Group profit for the year after tax and transfer to contingencies	469,245	550,461
Dividends paid and proposed	272,113	272,113
Retained profit for the year	197,132	278,348
Balance brought forward	493,373	215,025
	690,505	493,373
Transfer to general reserve	250,000	—
Balance carried forward	£440,505	£493,373

The directors propose a final dividend of 8.125%  
making a total for the year of 13% equivalent to 20% gross.  
This is the same as was paid in the previous year.

The following are the main items shown by the balance  
sheet.

Total capital and published reserves	3,578,703	3,381,571
Bills discounted less rebate	140,045,948	158,476,286
Sterling and Dollar Certificates of Deposit at less than market value	8,078,047	10,053,929
Listed investments at less than market value	21,397,317	12,401,522
Goodwill less amount written off	1,110,878	1,280,039
Contingent liability on commercial bills rediscounted	32,868,000	45,377,000

"The latest movement in interest rates came too late to be  
fully reflected in the results, but profits  
now realised have given us a useful start to our new year."



## FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

## Stock markets

## Over 400 again despite Price Code worries

The FT Index went over the 400 mark for the first time since February 4 as shares met with a brisk demand in the first two hours of trading.

By midday, the index had reached its best level of the day with a rise of 5.6, but thereafter the now familiar pattern of a quiet afternoon session asserted itself and by the close the gain had been cut back to 4.4 at 402.1.

While most saw nothing sinister in this, there was a minority opinion that this late caution was brought about by second thoughts on Tuesday's

The word is that two or three institutional shareholders in Lamsom Industries have set their face firmly against Moore Corporation's 85p minority terms. Some say they have no choice but to accept, but there is likely to be a fight. Lamsom shares were unchanged at 80p.

prices code statement, which, at first sight, had been received favourably. This caution, it is suggested, stemmed from dislike of what is considered to be an "interventionist" attitude towards company profits.

Gilt followed the pattern of equities with a lively early trade and little interest thereafter. By the close, short dates were about one eighth better, with "mediums" and "longs" both up by as much as one half.

Cheaper money hopes were the main incentive. For the second day running, the spotlight fell on Ultra Electronic where, as expected, Rascal countered Dowty's terms. Ultra's shares gained 11p to 186p, Rascal fell back a penny to 288p, but Dowty gained 3p to 116p.

Some feel that the story may not yet be over and more may join the fray. Thorn "A" up 2p to 244p and EMI, firmer by 6p to 212p, are talked of as the most likely additional contenders.

The Ultra situation continued to spark off a number of other speculative features, among the smaller electricals. The most prominent were Dale, up 9p to 150p, Pethow 10p to 148p and MK Electric 4p to 131p. But sector-watchers point out that strong family interests would be likely to form a hurdle for potential suitors.

Among the majors on the pitch, Rayrolle at 150p and Rank at 190p, both rose 4p, while United Scientific continued to benefit from the chairman's bullish remarks and gained another 1p for a close of 173p. This company, too, is not without bid talk.

Foods also had their share of interest with Brooke Bond rising 3p to 513p after the sale of Argentine ranching interests and Linford gaining 8p to 230p on the monopolies clearance for the Gateway offer. FMC was another

speculatively wanted and ended with a jump of 9p to 84p. The Leonard Fairclough statement discounting a bid for Norwest Holst left the latter's shares, also hit by boardroom complications, off 4p to 84p. The Fairclough shares rose 2p to 166p, Jackson Steeple were suspended at 28p.

Some analysts think that now beer has gone to the Monopolies Commission the bad news is out. At all events, Greenall Whitley, still forlornly trying to win Stanneglands, and a bid for 34 should report profits of at least £4m against £3.3m for the half-year to March 31, and go on to make £10m or more for the year against £8.7m. The shares are steady at 61p.

The bid interest spread to the stores sector where both Ely's (Wimbledon) 15p to 65p and Brown Muff 4p to 164p gained more ground, the latter after Fraser's terms. Mothercare was another good spot with a rise of 4p to 38p.

Among the "blue chips", Unilever, with figures next week, led the way ahead with a gain of 12p to 452p, while ICI, with figures today, added 4p to 346p in spite of the feeling there may be higher exchanges losses.

Other rises came from Bat Ind 5p to 255p, Glaxo 5p to

455p and Courtaulds 4p to 109p. For the last named, suggestions persisted that the company would like to buy out the minority in its International Paint subsidiary whose shares jumped another 30p to 435p.

In motors, there was interest in BTR 10p to 163p and Clayton Devandore 3p to 87p, while in the building sector there were strong performance from Johnson-Richards Tiles up 7p to 162p and Taylor Woodrow 5p to 271p.

In oils, the best showings came from Lamsom, up 8p to 320p and Ultramar, which rose another 2p to 158p, making a gain of 10p over the week so far. Explaining this was a wage heard to remark that perhaps investors thought they were buying Ultra. In fact, a bullish quarter's figure are expected soon.

In the financial sector, Gillett Brothers put on 2p to 180p after figures and Standard Chartered

Bank gained 10p to 320p on its United States expansion plans. English China Clays were 10p higher at 84p as the prospect of a higher dividend outweighed rights issue news.

Gold was strong as the metal price soared. The best were Anglo American £13.75, Randfontein £23.00 and Hartbeestfontein £9.5, all up 75p. After hours, neither Herbert Morris 148p nor Babcock & Wilcox 79p stirred following the monopolies findings and the Minister's decision not to intervene further.

Equity turnover on February 22 was £68.05m (15.22 bargains). According to Exchange Telegraph, active stocks yesterday were Shell, ICI, BP, MK Electric, BAT, ICI, English China Clays, Thorn "A", Reed International, Courtaulds, Burnham, Imperial Group, EMI, Cadbury, Brooke Bond, BAT Ind, Ultra, BICC and Trafalgar House.

## Latest dividends

Company (and par value)	Ord div	Year ago	Year ago	Year ago	Year ago	Year ago
Colmore Inv (25p) Int	0.35	0.35	0.35	0.35	0.35	0.35
Estates Prop (25p) Int	0.35	0.35	0.35	0.35	0.35	0.35
Fidelity (10p) Int	1.65	1.65	1.65	1.65	1.65	1.65
Gillett Brothers (10p) Int	8.12	8.12	8.12	8.12	8.12	8.12
Nicholas Int (AS1) Int	3p	3p	3p	3p	3p	3p
T. J. Pyke (100p) Int	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Westwood Daves (25p) Int	2.99	2.99	2.99	2.99	2.99	2.99

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. \* Adjusted for scrip issue. † Cents per share.

## Below-the-line loss at Town &amp; City Props swells to £13.1m

By John Brennan  
Since their arrival at Town & City Properties in 1973, Mr Jeffrey Sterling and his management team have sold £212m of properties. They have abandoned or brought near to completion a development programme which, in 1973, was expected to cost in excess of £450m. And they have kept the group afloat—with the backing of Barclays Bank and the Prudential—despite a debt to net equity ratio last year of over 350 per cent and an annual revenue drain of more than £20m.

However, the scaling of the problems still facing T & C is reflected in half-year results to

end September 1976. Although the period includes the first benefits from the sale of the group's European scheme in Rotterdam for £25.6m, £25m raised from the sale of Australian properties and a further £9.5m of sales since last August, the reported loss before tax and before net development outgoings rose from £3.5m to £13.1m. No dividends are proposed.

Below the line the total loss, after allowing tax relief on development outgoings of £497,000 against £146,100 in 1975, rose from £11.5m to £13.1m. In addition, the group reports realized capital losses in the first half of £12.3m.

A half-year interest of £9.98m, excluding net interest outgoings of £9.1m, reflects the upturn in interest rates since the latter half of 1976. A short-term variable rate accounting for over 60 of T & C's £336m bor in results for the first half of the year. Mr Sterling says that the development reached completion and things market improve weight-of developments goings and thus the drain will steadily ease.

## Foreign exchange, and New Year boon stop Gillett from tumbling

By John Whitmore  
Profits at Gillett Brothers, the discount house and money broking group, fell appreciably less sharply last year than those of some of its competitors. But the group is still adopting a cautious line on dividends, the full payment for the year remaining pegged at 20p a share.

One has been the fact that, unlike Union and Alexander's, its accounting year runs to the end of January. This has given the group the benefit of a favourable conditions at the start of the New Year and has helped to offset the lean period from last April to October when profitability was under severe pressure as interest rates rose steeply. A second contributory factor has been the good profits that have been made by the Kirkland-Whitaker Group.

Commenting on the current year, the group says it has introduced last autumn lead companies to make use of their unused cash. But it also says it has introduced a prohibition of sterling for third country trading, damaging the group's commercial bill business. The year end balance shows capital and reserves down from £3.38m to £2.58m, holdings down from £1.140m and listed in excess of £12.4m to £12.1m.

## Assoc Fish looks to a 200-mile fish zone

By Ray Maughan  
If a Common Fisheries Policy can be agreed, and Britain's biggest white fish fleet, Associated Fisheries, should be on course for further recovery. In his annual report for the year to September 30, Mr Paul Tapscott, chairman, estimates that "provided adequate control and policing of the 200 mile economic zone can be achieved, it should be possible to conserve and develop the fish stocks so as to attain a sustainable annual catch of the order of 2.5m tonnes".

At the moment, the combined United Kingdom fleets are landing about 1m tonnes a year, but, as Mr Tapscott points out, the USSR caught 800,000 tonnes within EEC waters in 1975, and with a gross fishing fleet tonnage of 3.2m, the USSR far outweighs the United Kingdom capacity of 231,000 tonnes.

If Britain had a 50 mile exclusive zone, it could double its annual catch, Mr Tapscott believes. AF achieved a notable turnaround last year and after an interim loss of £837,000 annual pre-tax profits reached £1.9m.

The year before losses were £2.03m. Helped by better selling prices and a fleet reduction, the trawling and engineering division, headed by British United Trawlers, made the running. It recovered from a £278,000 loss to a £1.7m trading surplus.

But there is a great deal further to go to improve the 91 per cent return on funds employed. The foods processing and distribution division eliminated a deficit of £716,000 and replaced it with a £599,000 trading surplus. Even so, the divisional return on capital of around 3 per cent is described as "miserable".

The introduction of three BUT trawlers into Australian waters—a continent which apparently has no established white fish fleet—may prove a valuable area of diversification, particularly since domestic trawlers are returning no more than half the anticipated gross on capital investment.

But 1977 looks to be a year of consolidation. Dividend recovery is restricted to 1.2p a share. But at the "earliest practical opportunity" the board will restore dividends to the earlier peak of 5.4p gross a share where the yield at yesterday's price of 474p—up 1p—is 11.4 per cent.

## BOC still seems on way to £85m plus

By Nicholas Hirst  
BOC International's first quarter profits disappointed the stock market although there was some confusion over a much higher depreciation charge. A 30 per cent increase to a pre-tax figure of £16.6m left profits about £1m short of last year's £17.5m. Shares closed 1p lower at 67p.

The depreciation charge rose from £6.1m to £8.6m partly as a result of an additional charge of £925,000 reflecting a revaluation of assets. This compares with a total additional charge of £2.6m last year.

The increased rate of depreciation follows a widening of the revaluation policy, and it now approximates to the charge that would be made under the

Morpeth inflation accounting proposals. It is not expected to increase substantially in the later three quarters of the year and analysts have not downgraded their forecasts for a total pre-tax outcome of between £85m and £90m.

Asia provided the largest leap in profits—up 51 per cent before interest at £12m. Europe was a quarter better at £7.5m, Africa up a fifth at £3.5m, the Pacific regions up 26 per cent at £4.7m and the Americas (Africa) 12 per cent higher at £4.6m.

The directors report that all areas improved profits over the comparable quarter before taking exchange differences into account. Although sterling had strengthened during the quarter, the effect on profits was minimal.

## Marshall's pay £185,000 for tools company

Marshall's (Halifax) have bought from Tempered Group of Sheffield the capital of Higher Speed Metals and also the freehold land and property on which HSM's factory premises are situated. HSM is based in Sheffield and manufactures a complete range of tungsten carbide hard metals and tipped tools. The purchase will enable Halifax Tool—a Marshall's subsidiary—to rationalize its production programme. The consideration of £185,000 has been satisfied by the issue of 262,355 ordinary shares of 25p each in Marshall's which have been placed by broker E. B. Savory, Millin & Co and cash of £1,350.

Marshall's added that HSM will continue to operate as an independent company within the engineering division of Marshall's. Expansion is planned for HSM and no redundancies are expected.

## Sketchley offer for Johnson—a few jobless

In its formal offer to shareholders in Johnson Group Cleaners, Sketchley claims that its share and cash offer represents a 40.3 per cent increase in the capital value of Johnson's ordinary shares compared to their price on the day before the bid was made.

It also claims that its dividend proposals represent a 35 per cent increase in income to Johnson shareholders.

But Sketchley gives a warning that a small number of redundancies will be made at Johnson if the bid goes through. Sketchley says this would arise from its intention to integrate the dry cleaning businesses of both companies. Sketchley is forecasting profits for the year to the beginning of April of not less than £2.2m compared to £1.96m the year before.

## CGA plans to do better

By Tony May  
A loss of £1.1m gave way to a pre-tax profit of £3.6m (£2.4m) at Consolidated Gold Fields Australia in the six months to December 31. But the directors say that the result is disappointing and they find it difficult to forecast the results for the full year.

However, the directors expect operating results for the second six months, before extraordinary write-downs or profits, to show an improvement over the present year "provided that the benefits of devaluation are not eroded by cost increases".

The group, in which Consolidated Gold Fields has 68 per cent, managed its turnaround on a gross revenue 15 per cent up at \$A111.2m. The "substantial" profits derived from the group's interests in tin, coal and portfolio investments, were offset by losses on copper and iron ore.

The group has almost finished the sale of the Goldworthy iron ore project. The Tasmanian copper producer Mount Lyell continues to cause concern despite devaluation. "A significant economies" and a revised production plan.

## Johnson Matthey bounds 44pc

The recovery of Johnson Matthey shows no sign of ending. Pre-tax profits in the nine months to December 31 jumped 55 per cent to £14m.

Excluding Johnson Matthey Bankers, sales went up 21 per cent to £21.8m.

The board says that pre-tax profits were arrived at after deducting £2.3m against £1.49m for debenture and other interest.

The second quarter to September 30 had a 48 per cent jump in profits to £4.4m. Other than the quarter in fact, £14.1m against £9.5m. Most of the surge came from mechanical products which include precious metal fabrications, mainly for industrial use. The board expected the improvement to be maintained for the full year, and the third quarter in fact showed a 29 per cent advance in profits to £4.9m.

A similar growth rate for the final quarter would hoist pre-tax profits to £22m from £15m last year and a record £17.1m for 1974-75.

## Strike impact on Ley's offshoot

Shareholders in Ley's Foundries and Engineering, whose profits rose 41 per cent to a record £3.1m in 1975-76, were given a warning at the annual meeting.

Mr F. D. Ley, chairman, said that trading results of its largest subsidiary, Ley's Malleable Castings, for the second quarter to March 31 would show a "substantial decline" because of the prolonged strike at the Coventry factory of Massey-Ferguson, its major customer. Other industrial disputes at customers in the motor industry are now forcing the Derby and Lincoln foundries to go on a four-day week.

On the brighter side, much progress has been made in getting the business of Beeston Bolters restarted. This was bought a month ago.

## Tozer Kemsley links with Sumitomo

Tozer Kemsley and Millbourn (Holdings), the international finance and investment group, is to set up a joint venture company with Sumitomo Shoji Kaisha, one of the largest Japanese trading houses, to develop exports to Japan from the European Economic Community. Japan is thinking about increasing its imports from the Community following the Hague meeting last year when the EEC insisted that the trade imbalance should be put right. The new company—to be called Sumitoto—is investigating the possibilities of selling United Kingdom and French automotive components and accessories to Japanese motor manufacturers.

## Lee Valley tender should go well

Lee Valley Water Company's £2m tender issue of 9 per cent redeemable preference stock 1982 follows a similar £3m issue by Mid-Kent Water Company last month. It received record applications at a time when the gilt edged market was surging ahead strongly. Mid-Kent's issue attracted an average price of 99½ and is now trading about a point higher than that. So, despite the more stable climate in the gilt market, tenders for the Lee Valley issue will almost certainly have to be above the minimum tender price of £99 to secure stock and possibly even over the 100 mark. Brokers are Seymour Pierce.

## Est Property delay

Because it ran out of time, the outgoing Commission of the EEC could not provide before the end of 1976 the promised written confirmation of the leasing arrangements for the Brussels site of Estates Property Investments.

But the board says that there is no reason whatever to suppose that this is any more than a brief postponement.

Gross rents in the six months to October 31 went up from £877,000 to £983,000, and net

property income was £803,000 against £723,000. The surplus available for distribution was £81,000 compared with £52,000, and the interim dividend is 0.77p against 1.33p gross.

## Hanson Trust moves deeper into farming

British Agricultural Services, the United Kingdom agri-products subsidiary of Hanson Trust, is making, through N. M. Rothschild & Sons, offers for Hamlyn & Company and Hamlyn & Company (Transport).

The price is £372,000 cash. The offer is recommended by the directors of Hamlyn, have been irrevocably accepted by the holders of 82 per cent of the equity. Hamlyn, a privately owned business established in 1859, is a provider of mill and cultural merchant operating in Scotland and Cheshire.

## Recovery continuing at Textured Jersey

It is something that Textured Jersey is again making money. But it is not making much and there is again no interim dividend. On the bright side, there was a return to profits in 1975-76 after two years of losses and now the group, in knitted jersey fabrics, reports more than doubled half-time figures.

On turnover up from £3.1m to £3.9m in the six months to October 31, pre-tax profits rose to £82,000, from £31,000, but they included a profit of £21,000 on the sale of fixed assets, against nil.

The board is worried by the rises in raw material and other costs, but it thinks about dividends when the full year's figures are in. The last dividend was for 1972-73.

## Bolton Textile ahead

Profits before tax of Bolton Textile Mill rose from £152,000 to £155,000 in the first half year to October 31 and Mr I. Golek, chairman, forecasts that the 12-month results will show a substantial improvement over the £31,000 made last time. Turnover of this that the 12-months results will London-based textiles and women's clothing group grew from £4.2m to £5.5m in the first six months.

## Daejan Holdings

Rental income (less property outgoings) at Daejan Holdings rose from £22.7m to £23.7m in the six months to September 30. Property sales brought in £880,000. Pre-tax profits went up from £559,000 to £690,000. The full year's pre-tax profits are expected to be about the same as those the year before, which were £1,06m.

The board explains that a number of properties owned by the subsidiaries are being realised and it is "no longer economic to retain them". In view of the increasing frequency of these sales, Daejan has been advised that the surpluses from them should be credited to profit and loss account, increasing profits available for distribution. Comparative figures have been adjusted.

Daejan is the quoted property offshoot of the Freshwater family residential property empire.

## Fairclough denial

Leonard Fairclough has emphatically denied that there is any truth whatever in press suggestions of any contact, share dealings, or other conversations with Norwest Holst and says that it has no interest in that company.

Fairclough has never held and never bought any shares in Norwest Holst.

Both Norwest, where Mr Dennis Le Mare has ceased to be chairman, and Fairclough are builders and civil engineers.

## Jackson &amp; Steeple

Blackburn-based cotton weavers Jackson and Steeple has large shares temporarily suspended, pending an announcement. They were 28p before the suspension.

In 1975 the group turned a profit of £40,000 into a loss of

## Briefly

UTAH AUSTRALIA  
Sydney, Feb. 23.—Utah Mining Australia Ltd chairman C. R. Rennie told annual meeting that the 1977 year has not started as buoyantly as hoped. However net income should be substantial.

UML's proposed four per cent stake in Central Queensland Coal Associates joint venture is not delayed too long.

Record profits for the third year running are reported by Westwood Daves, a Stourbridge-based group of structural and mechanical handling engineers.

In 1976 turnover rose from £1.48m to £1.77m, taking pre-tax profits from £132,000 to a peak £189,000. Earnings a share jumped from an adjusted 4.77p to 7.06p, and the gross dividend rose from 4.44p, allowing for a scrip issue, to 4.61p.

## L. B. Holliday

After nasty setback, L. B. Holliday (Holdings) partly recovered in the year to June 26, 1976. Turnover rose from £7.83m to £11.08m and pre-tax profits from £301,000 to £513,000. In 1973-74, profits were a record £917,000. The dividend on the ordinary shares—all privately held—absorbed £75,000, against £36,000. Holliday manufactures aniline dye.

## Bumper Berisford

All the signs are that international food group S. & W. Berisford is set for another bumper year to end-September, 1977, after jumping 45 per cent to £13.6m. Mr Norman Castle, chairman, told the annual meeting that trading in the opening four months of the present term shows a "considerable" improvement.

This came from an all-round improvement in the performance of its trading companies together with the contributions from newcomers bought in the second-half of last year. The effect of volume reduction in sales brought about by high prices has been reduced by the groups greater penetration in most areas of trading.

## Business appointments

## Sir Monty joins International Combustion

Sir Monty Finniston, formerly chairman of the British Steel Corporation, has joined the board of International Combustion (Holdings) Ltd. He will be succeeded by Mr J. A. C. Talbot as chairman after the next annual general meeting.

Mr Alex Dibbs will become a deputy chairman of National Westminster Bank from March 1, succeeding as group chief executive.

Sir Monty Finniston (left) who has joined the board of International Combustion (Holdings); Mr Alex Dibbs, who becomes a deputy chairman of National Westminster Bank from March 1.

Mr J. G. Kennington has been elected chairman and Mr G. G. Williams deputy chairman of the Issuing Houses Association. The following executive committee was elected: Mr R. A. Brooks, Mr E. H. Barclay, Mr D. J. Ewart, Mr J. R. Gillon, Mr D. O. Horne, Mr Kennington, Mr T. J. Mannings, Mr J. M. F. Padovan, Mr G. R. Walsh and Mr Williams.

M. Pierre Acolas has been made managing director of Renault in succession to Mr Rudolphe Lambert, who moves back to Paris to be responsible for Renault's Northern American subsidiaries.

Mr Ellsworth Donnell becomes sole managing director of Western American Bank (Europe). Mr George E. Rothel has resigned as managing director to become executive vice-president of United California Bank, Los Angeles.

Mr Michael Laming has been elected to the board of the NCK Organisation.

## FLEDGLING

Fledgling Investments for the year ended Jan. 21 up £223,000 to £25,000. Div 2.54p gross (2.31p).

## COLMORE INVESTMENTS

Profit for nine months 31st last, £72,000 (£64,000). Loan interest, £53,000 (£47,000). Gross dividend, Single payment, 1.1p year before.

## SALVADOR RAILWAY

Co has almost paid off per cent prior issue, but until it goes into liquidation, holders of 5 per cent income stock or consolidated stock available for distribution to increase the dividend by 10p, approve voluntary winding.

## BROADSTONE INVESTMENT

The Invested Income 1976 pre-tax revenue inc from £330,000 to £340,000. Payment up to 5.61p to shareholders.

## ARCOLECTIC (HOLDINGS)

Pre-tax profit for year to her 31 up from £112,019,900. Gross payment again.

## WEST COAST AND TEXAS

Gross revenue of West Coast Texas Regional Investment for 1976, £160,000 (£133,000). Pre-tax revenue, £127,000. Gross dividend, £27.00p. Dividend, £27.00p.

## CREST NICHOLSON

The target for the year, set ago, is for an increase in profits. Early trading indicates that this is attainable.

## Inter-City purchase

The Inter-City Investment Group has bought Sha-Ron, a private maker of knit jersey fabrics, for 82 ordinary shares.

Net tangible assets of Sha-Ron at November 31, £110,000, and pre-tax profit £15,000. Inter-City's A-Knitwear subsidiary, all makes double knit jersey.

Sha-Ron will merge its production with that of Albion, which will be increased some 40 per cent with economies in costs.

## CHALLENGE CORPORATION LIMITED

## INTERIM REPORT

The unaudited results of the Group for the six months ended 31st December 1976, and the comparable figures for the same period of the previous year, are as follows:

	Six months ended 31/12/76	Six months ended 31/12/75
Group Profit before taxation	9,038	5,560
Less Estimated taxation	3,864	2,







§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

[illegible]





# Focus on overseas appointments



## Unique Opportunity with the Caterpillar Dealer in MALAYSIA GENERAL MANAGER SERVICE

**Company:** Tractors Malaysia Berhad headquartered in Kuala Lumpur is one of the world's largest Caterpillar dealers and operates an extensive branch network throughout Malaysia, Brunei and Singapore.

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Replies should give brief but comprehensive details to date together with a passport-sized photograph to reach us by 31st March 1977. All applications will be treated in the strictest confidence and should be marked on the cover "Service Manager" and addressed to:

**Managing Director**  
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GPO Box 2465 Kuala Lumpur  
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**Tractors Malaysia Berhad**  
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Firm of British Consulting Engineers with an Australian practice seeks to appoint an experienced engineer to take over from the present managing partner who is returning to U.K.

A successful candidate would probably be over 37 years old, Australian or British citizenship and have held positions at responsible levels on major works in U.K. or overseas, and should be capable of running this small but expanding practice which operates Australia and South East Asia principally in the fields of civil, mechanical and electrical engineering with some structural and design work.

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## Weighing pay against costs

A question frequently asked by the executive who has been sought by an overseas company or who is considering drafting a reply to an advertisement offering an attractive overseas post is whether the seemingly substantial salary is as good as it seems.

Reports of high rents, high food prices, expensive education costs and high prices for medical treatment have prompted many executives considering a move abroad to seek more detailed information about the country where they plan to make a new home in.

Obviously the best solution is to pay a visit to the country in question to find out at first hand the problems and costs likely to be encountered before making a final decision. However, few companies recruiting in Britain offer such facilities—understandable in the light of the high costs that can be involved—and the onus is on the applicant to find out for himself the type of problems that will be faced.

Considerable information can be provided by the embassies and consulates of the countries involved, but getting information on the type of problems likely to be faced by Britons, as seen through British eyes, can be more difficult.

Applicants for jobs in many Commonwealth countries and their dependencies are more fortunate. They can make use of the excellent series of background notes prepared by the Royal Commonwealth Society and available from its offices at Northumberland Avenue, London.

The notes, which are compiled from official and unofficial sources, are frequently updated, and contain detailed information of the type often hard to find. The countries covered are those in the main which attract

ive to British executives and technicians and for which government agencies recruit.

The notes on Singapore, for instance, provide concise information on climate, history, immigration requirements, visas and identity cards, employment passes, health and immunization requirements and the system of government.

Details on education, including lists of private school and their fees and lists of the state school system, are given as well as details on the availability of correspondence courses.

Information on insurance matters, the exchange control system, local banking facilities, import and export requirements is given as well as advice on internal transport systems and the complications of car ownership and importing a car. Advice of the suitability of domestic appliances and on their importation is provided, and for the family indications of food prices and the type of food available.

Information on gas, electricity and water supplies and charges is also given and information on available accommodation.

In Singapore most employees provide expatriate with accommodation with a degree of furnishing, although it is wise to check on what is supplied. The notes point out that housing in Singapore can easily be rented or bought, and examples of costs are given.

However, in neighbouring Malaysia the situation is very different with severe accommodation problems which makes it essential for employers to offer accommodation with jobs and in Zambia, another area covered by a Society report, even accommodation offered by employers can take some time to materialize, with families having to live in hotels for up to six months

until flats or houses come vacant.

The value of having such detailed information is immeasurable and the Society's notes also provide a list of other publications which the expatriate will find useful.

A reflection of the frequency such information is being sought and the attractiveness of an overseas appointment is the growing concern now being shown by leading British companies who are recruiting in the same market place for trained executives and skilled technicians.

Sir John Read, chairman of EMI, has recently commented on the division which now exists in his own company, and in others, between the United Kingdom managers "penalized by savage personal taxation and financially frustrated in consequence" and the group outside the United Kingdom "enjoying high rewards and high standards of living".

Other companies are finding that even executives offered a promotion with a £5,000 a year salary increase are going abroad. The executive involved would have increased his United Kingdom salary to £15,000, but the offer from abroad for virtually the same job brought him a salary of £23,000 with considerably less taxation.

Most of the executives concerned are in the 35-45 age group and earning between £10,000 and £15,000, although some are earning much more.

Mr Ken Corfield, managing director of Standard Telephone and Cables, one of the companies affected, points out that in statistical terms the numbers may not seem significant, but there are very few managers of this calibre and experience around.

David Young

## OVERSEAS DEVELOPMENT

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Sri Lanka

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The post is wholly financed by the British Government under Britain's programme of aid to the developing countries. In addition to basic salary an overseas allowance other benefits normally include paid leave, free family passages, children's education allowances and holiday visits, free accommodation and medical attention. Applicants should be citizens of the United Kingdom.

For full details and application form please apply (quoting ref. 328) and giving details of age, qualifications and experience to:

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OTHER APPOINTMENTS VACANT ON PAGES 25 AND 26

## DIRECTOR OF HORSE-BREEDING IN IRAN

The Royal Horse Society of Iran require a Director of Horse-breeding. The applicant should be an able administrator and be experienced in all aspects of Horse-breeding—preferably with some knowledge of Middle-Eastern countries.

The person appointed will be required to organize and operate a breeding policy and will be responsible for stallion selection, improvement of mares, and encouragement of breeders. The post will appeal to someone who is prepared to live in Iran, learning the language and travelling in the breeding areas to the East of the Caspian Sea. The expected age of the applicant will be 30-40 years.

The tenure of service will be not less than five years and the salary will be approximately £10,000 (Ten thousand pounds) a year plus a free house, car, and annual flight to England on paid holiday.

Applicants should apply in writing with full career and family details to The Royal Horse Society of Iran, care of The Jockey Club Racing and Breeding Advisory Committee at 42 Portman Square, London, W1H 0EN. Short list of approved candidates will be invited for interview in London and the chosen candidate will be asked to go to Iran "to see and be seen" before the contract is confirmed.

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If you match the parameters set, please submit your curriculum vitae, in English, to the Company's Advisor, Mr. J. E. P. McSweeney, Prospect Appointments Service, 101 Bancroft, Hitchin, Herts. SG5 1NB. All applications will be treated in the strictest confidence.

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Please send detailed curriculum vitae and the names of three referees to Professor J. M. Ham, Dean, School of Graduate Studies, University of Toronto, 65 St. George Street, Toronto, Ontario M5S 1A1, Canada.







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12.30 pm, Westward  
1.30, Thames.  
1.55, The Glentworth  
5.45, News  
6.35, At  
10.30, Westward  
Westward News  
11.55, Faith for

**Scottish**

1.25 pm, Anglia  
2.00, Woman  
4.20, Romper  
4.30, At  
5.45, News  
Thames 10.30.  
Special Branch (r.)

12.00, The  
East London  
6.00, News  
The Bachelors  
House on the  
6.00, News  
7.05, Thames  
11.15, Bonzo

12.00, The  
only, 7.30  
6.30, News  
The Glentworth  
Crossroads  
7.05, Thames

1.30 am, North-  
 1.30, Thames, 2.00, London  
 4.50, The Little  
 5.45, News, 6.00, Scat-  
 6.10, Farm, 6.15, ATV  
 10.30, What's the  
 12.10, What's the

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(Continued on page 20)

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1.25 pm, Angela	12.00, Thomas, 1.25 pm, Reid	Gilmore, Alan	music, 9.5 VHF, 206 M.
1.40, 2.00, Women	1.30, Thomas, 2.00, Women	Talk, 3.50, L. Cenn. and beefe. Alan	Lewden Broadacast, news and in-
1.40, 2.20, Robert	1.30, Thomas, 2.20, Robert	and 4.35, Neckeri. Stings	formation station, 97.5 VHF, 251
1.45, 2.45, 3.45,	Only 2.25, Thomas, 4.20, L. Cenn.	Quartet, 4.40, In Shop	
4.45, 5.45, 6.45,	the Glimp, 5.15, 5.45, 6.45, Scott	Schubert, 6.40, In Shop	Capital Radio, 24-hour music, news
7.45, 8.45, 9.45,	and 10.45, News, 6.50, L. Cenn.	Concert, 6.40, In Shop	and features surdon, 96.8 VHF,
10.45, 11.45,	Thomas, 6.55, L. Cenn. W. C.	and 7.45, Homeward Bound, 8.05,	2.94 M.
12.00, 1.00, 2.00,	Thomas, 11.30, L. Cenn. W. C.	and 8.05, Homeward Bound	
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stuffed trousers  
Wedding Morning  
Suits  
Surplus suits £50  
each.  
For sale as one lot  
**LIPMANS JEKS DEPT.**  
37 Oxford St. W1  
(N.Y. Tottenham Ct Rd Tube station)

A black and white illustration of a man from the chest up, wearing a dark suit jacket over a light-colored shirt and a dark tie. He has short, dark hair and is looking slightly to his right with a neutral expression. The style is simple and graphic, typical of mid-century advertising.[illegible]

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There  
had  
the  
top